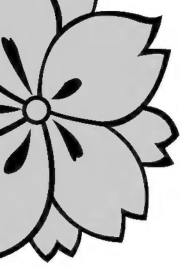
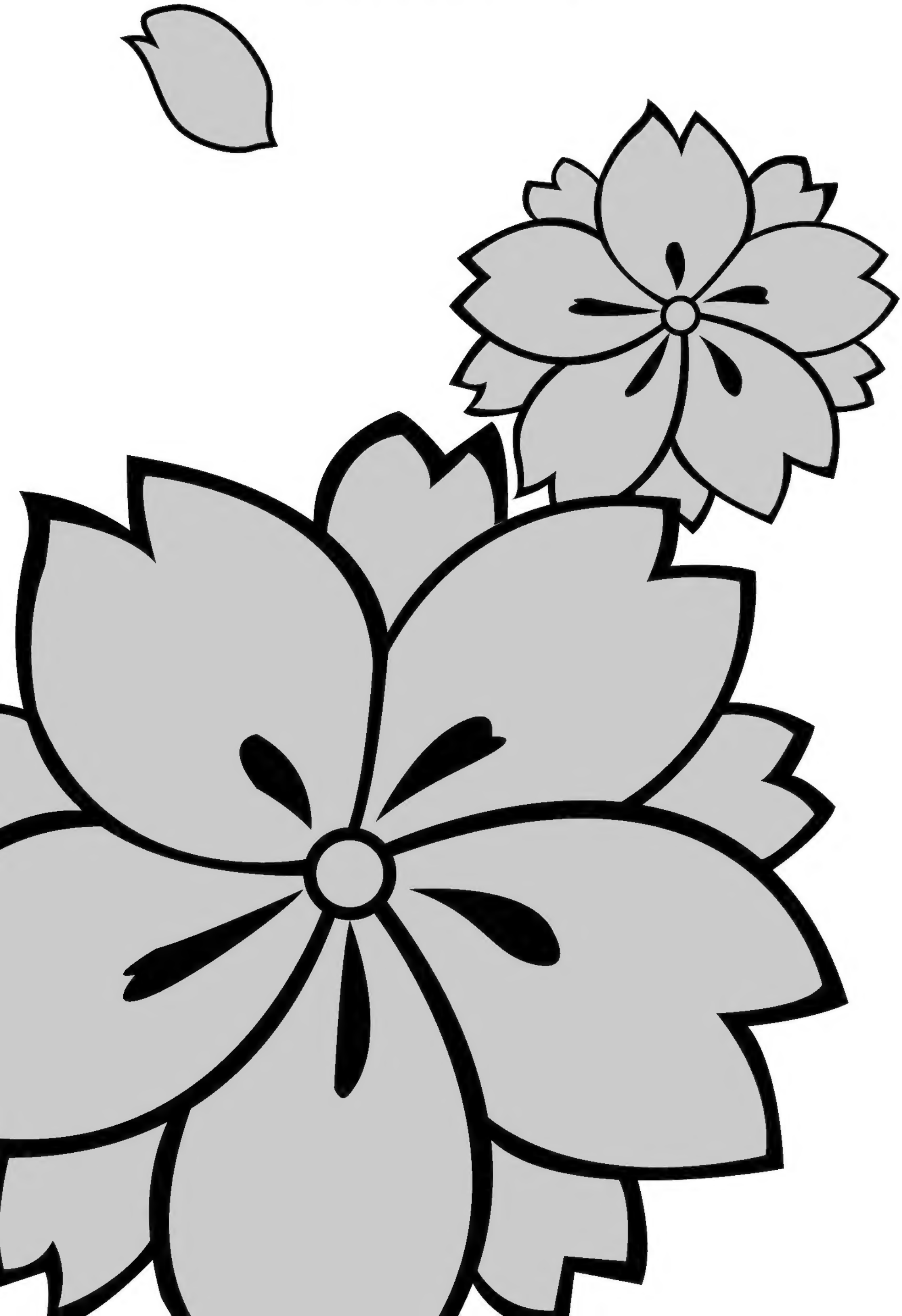
Yozakura Quartet

10

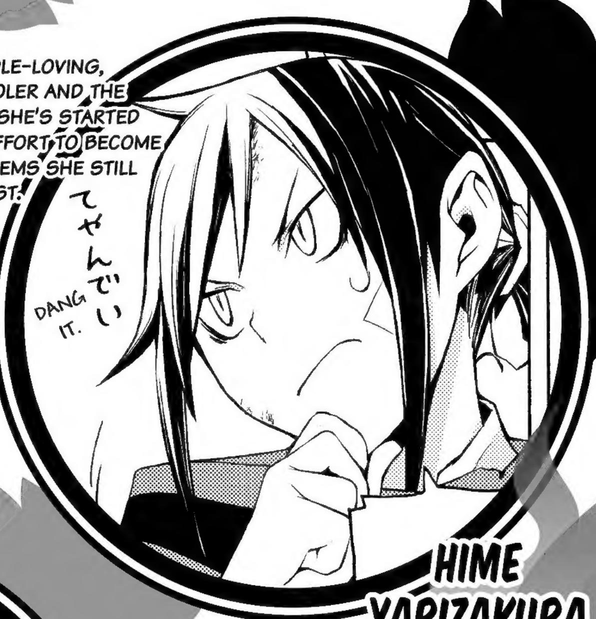
Suzuhito Yasuda



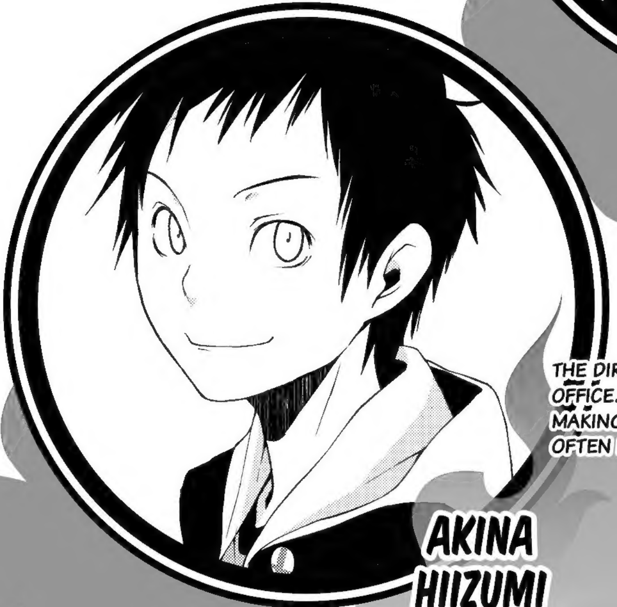
YOZAKURA QUARTET 10



A RAMBUNCTIOUS, MOODY, NOODLE-LOVING, SCARF-CLAD DEMON HIGH SCHOOLER AND THE MAYOR OF SAKURASHIN. LATELY, SHE'S STARTED LEARNING HOW TO COOK IN AN EFFORT TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT. EVEN SO, IT SEEMS SHE STILL LOVES AKINA'S COOKING THE MOST.


てやんでい
DANG IT.

HIME YARIZAKURA



THE DIRECTOR OF THE HIIZUMI LIFE COUNSELING OFFICE. AS ABOUT 20% OF HIS WORKDAY GOES INTO MAKING FOOD FOR HIME AND HIS EMPLOYEES, HE'S OFTEN IN THE OFFICE VERY LATE.

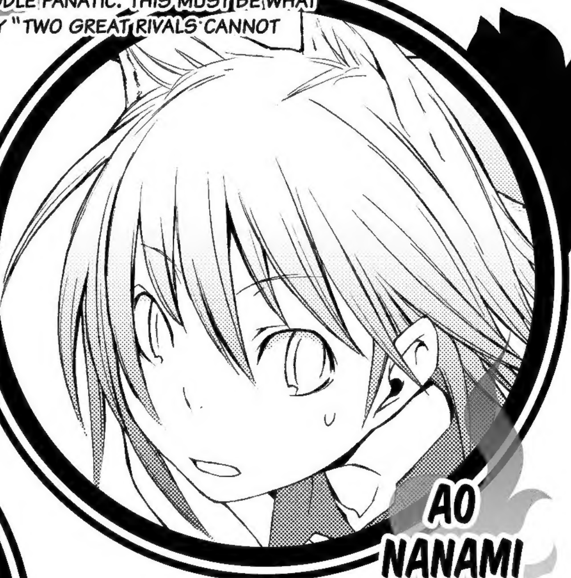
AKINA HIIZUMI

Quartet of cherry blossoms in the night

YOZAKURA QUARTET

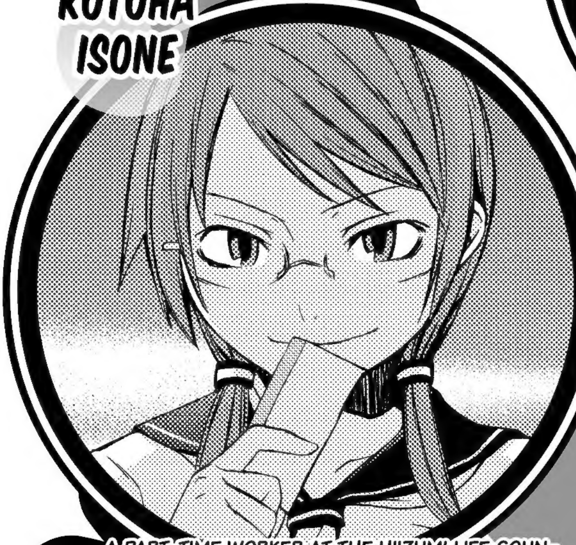
CHARACTER PROFILE

AN EMPLOYEE OF THE HIIZUMI LIFE COUNSELING OFFICE. SHE'S AS MUCH OF A RICE FANATIC AS HIME IS A NOODLE FANATIC. THIS MUST BE WHAT THEY MEAN BY "TWO GREAT RIVALS CANNOT COEXIST."



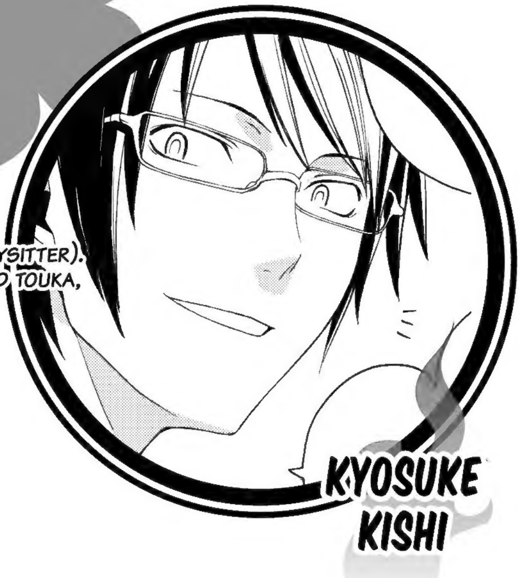
AO NANAMI

KOTOHA ISONE

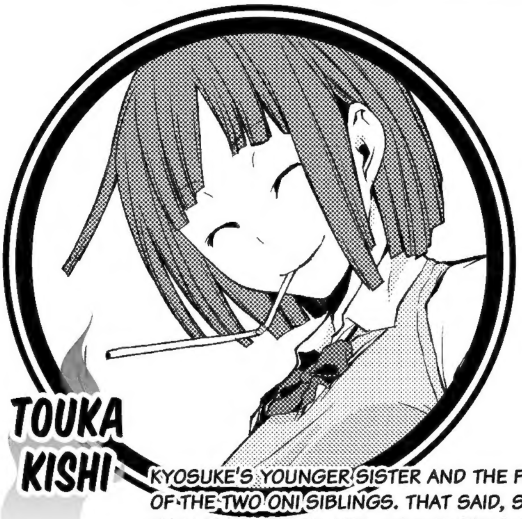


A PART-TIME WORKER AT THE HIIZUMI LIFE COUNSELING OFFICE. SHE WEARS GLASSES, IS INTO GIRLS, AND HAS BIG BOOBS, AMONG OTHER CLICHÉS, BUT SHE ALSO HAS THE MOST REFRESHING PERSONALITY.

HIME'S ASSISTANT AND OVERSEER (BABYSITTER). HE HAS TO TAKE CARE OF BOTH HIME AND TOUKA, SO HIS DAYS ARE FILLED WITH STRESS.

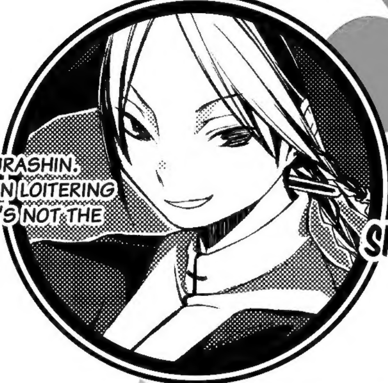


KYOSUKE KISHI



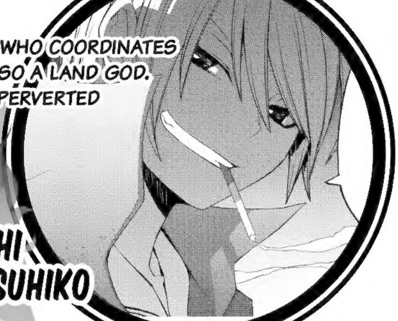
TOUKA KISHI

KYOSUKE'S YOUNGER SISTER AND THE FAIRER HALF OF THE TWO ONI SIBLINGS. THAT SAID, SHE LEADS THE MOST NORMAL LIFE, AS BEFITTING A HIGH-SCHOOL GIRL. SHE USED TO DO ARCHERY, BUT NOW PRACTICES AIKIDO.



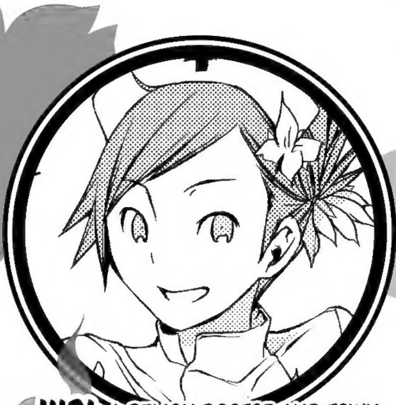
YAE SHINATSUHIKO

THE LAND GOD OF SAKURASHIN. SHE CAN OFTEN BE SEEN LOITERING AROUND TOWN, SO SHE'S NOT THE MOST DIGNIFIED DEITY.



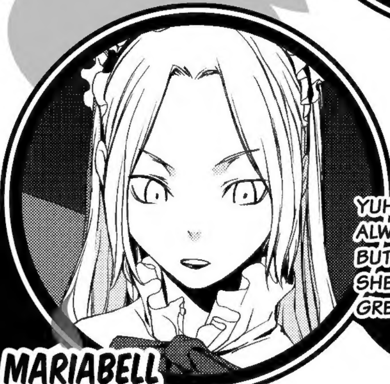
YUHI SHINATSUHIKO

THE DISTRICT MAYOR WHO COORDINATES THE TOWNS. HE IS ALSO A LAND GOD. DEEP DOWN, HE IS A PERVERTED OLD MAN.



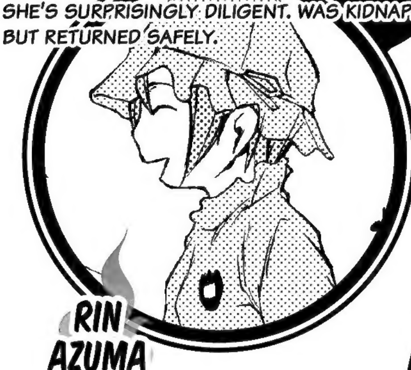
JURI

A DEMON DOCTOR AND TOWN ICON. SHE HAS BEEN ABSTAINING FROM SHOW BUSINESS LATELY.



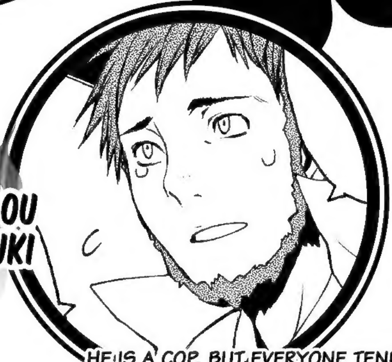
MARIABELL

YUHI'S SECRETARY. SHE IS ALWAYS ORDERED TO COSPLAY, BUT SHE SEEMS TO ENJOY IT. SHE IS ALSO JURI'S GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDMOTHER.



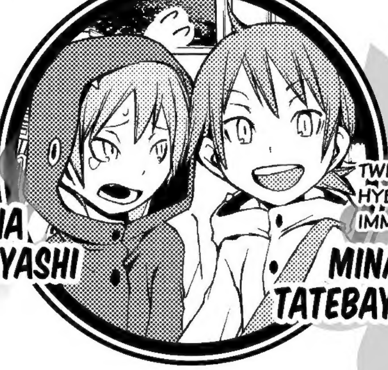
RIN AZUMA

A JIANGSHI WHO WORKS AT A RAMEN RESTAURANT. IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'S ALWAYS SLACKING OFF, BUT SHE'S SURPRISINGLY DILIGENT. WAS KIDNAPPED BUT RETURNED SAFELY.



SHIDOU MIZUKI

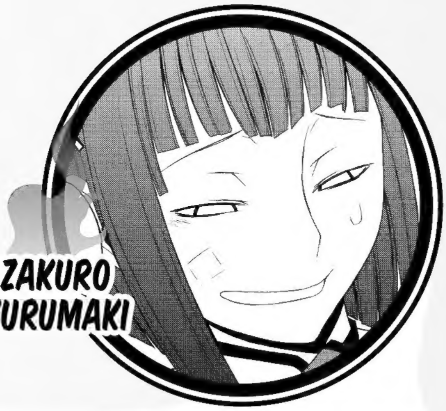
HE IS A COP, BUT EVERYONE TENDS TO FORGET THAT FACT. HE IS BUSY WATCHING OVER MINA AND KANA.



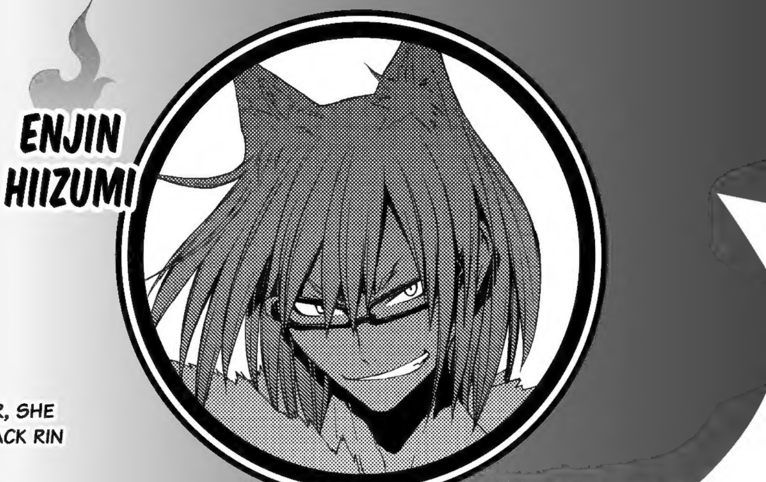
KANA TATEBAYASHI

MINA TATEBAYASHI

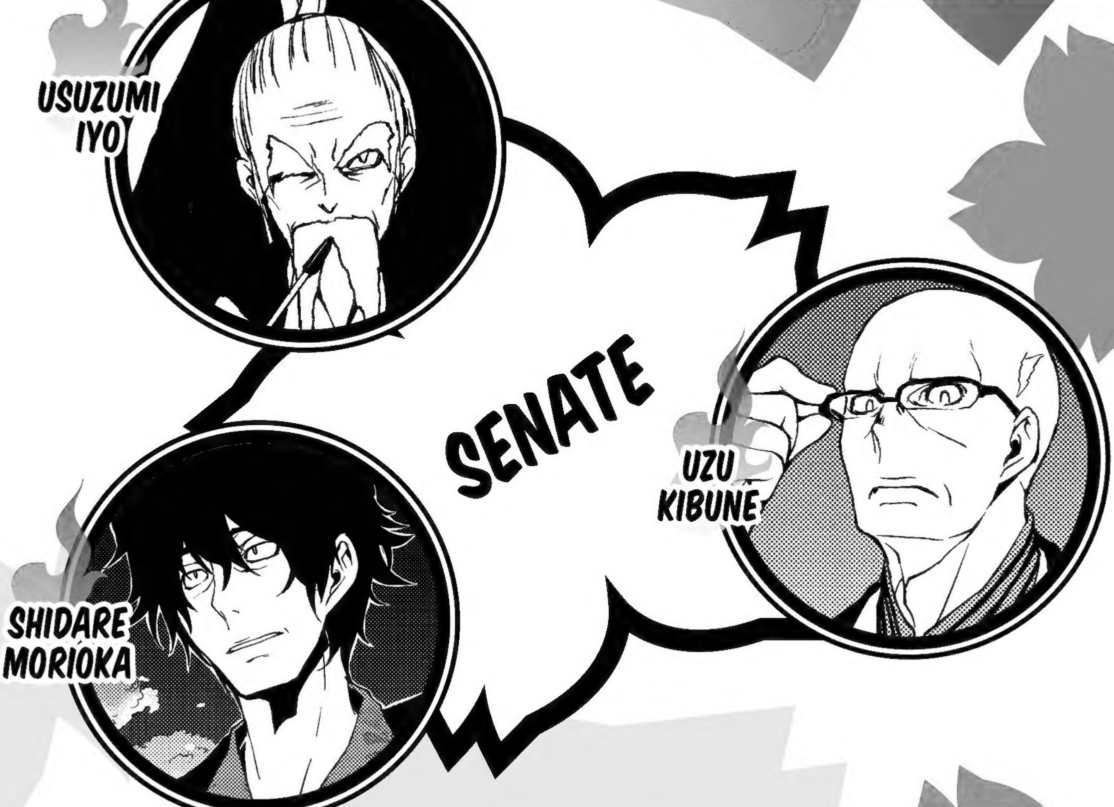
TWINS WHO ARE MERMAID-VAMPIRE HYBRIDS. THEY GROW WHEN THEY IMMERSE THEMSELVES IN WATER.


ZAKURO KURUMAKI

RIN'S FORMER MASTER AND A NECROMANCER, SHE ATTACKED SAKURASHIN IN ORDER TO TAKE BACK RIN BUT WAS THWARTED AND REFORMED.


ENJIN HIIZUMI

A DESCENDANT OF ENYOU HIIZUMI. HE TOOK OVER THE BODY OF GIN, AO'S OLDER BROTHER, AND HE IS PLANNING TO MAKE THE SEVEN PILLARS BLOOM IN ORDER TO MERGE THE TWO DIMENSIONS.


USUZUMI IYO
SENATE
UZU KIBUNE
SHIDARE MORIOKA

OUTLINE

WITH THE WITCH FIASCO SETTLED AND HER ABNORMAL INTEGRATION INTO TOWN INEVITABLY TURNING HEADS, EVERYONE JUST WRITES IT OFF AS, "WELL, THAT'S WHAT KINDA TOWN IT IS," AND RETURNS TO THEIR DAILY LIVES.

YOZAKURA QUARTET

10

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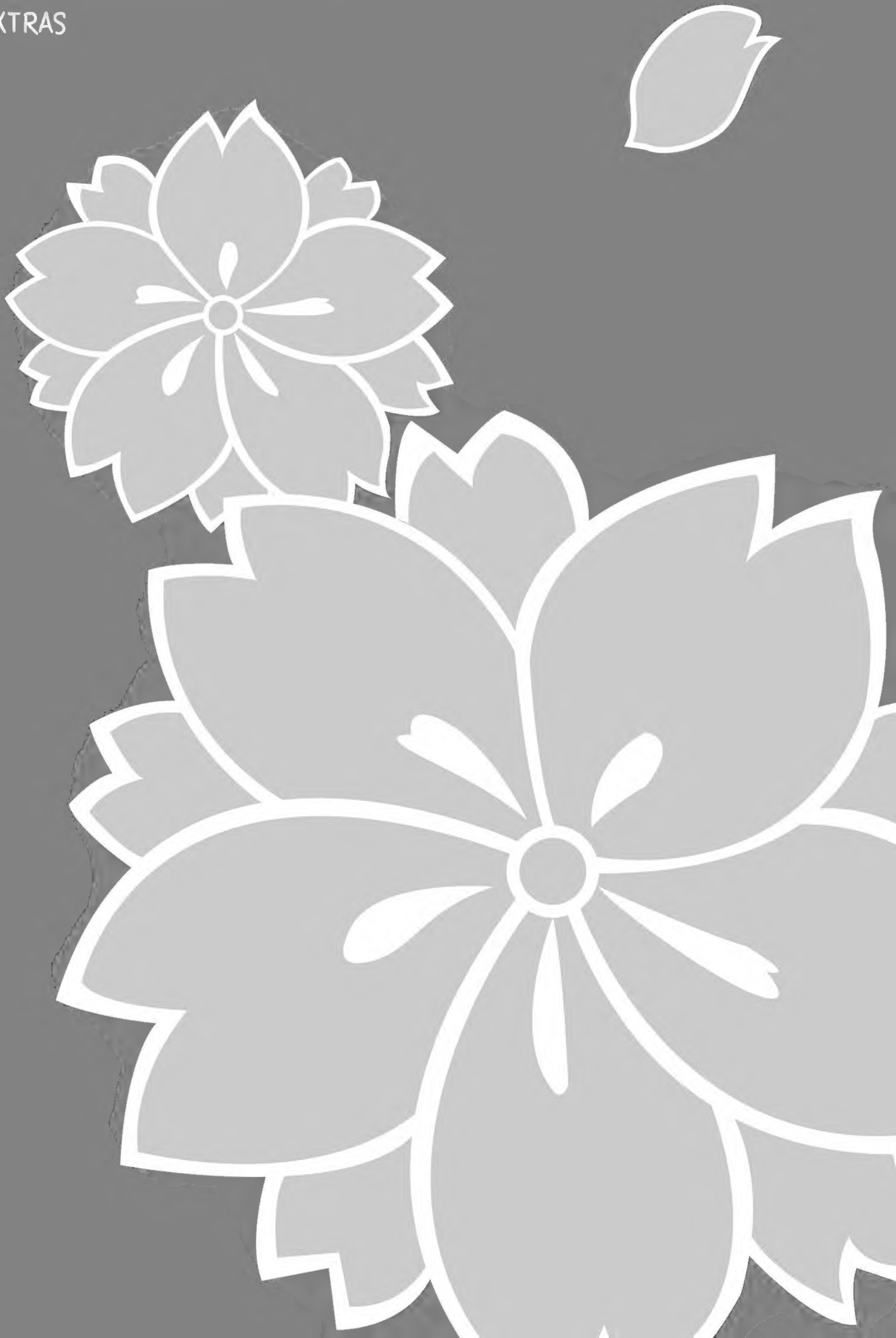
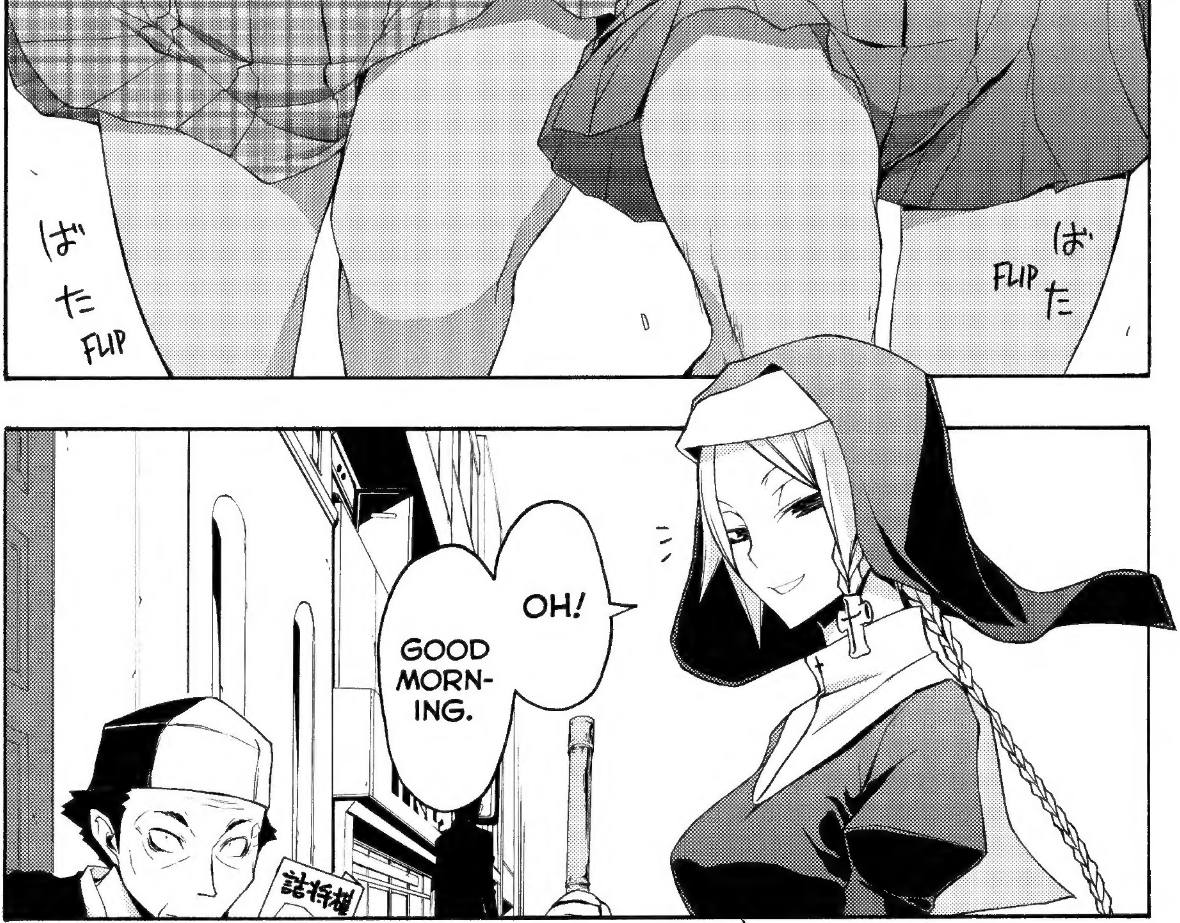
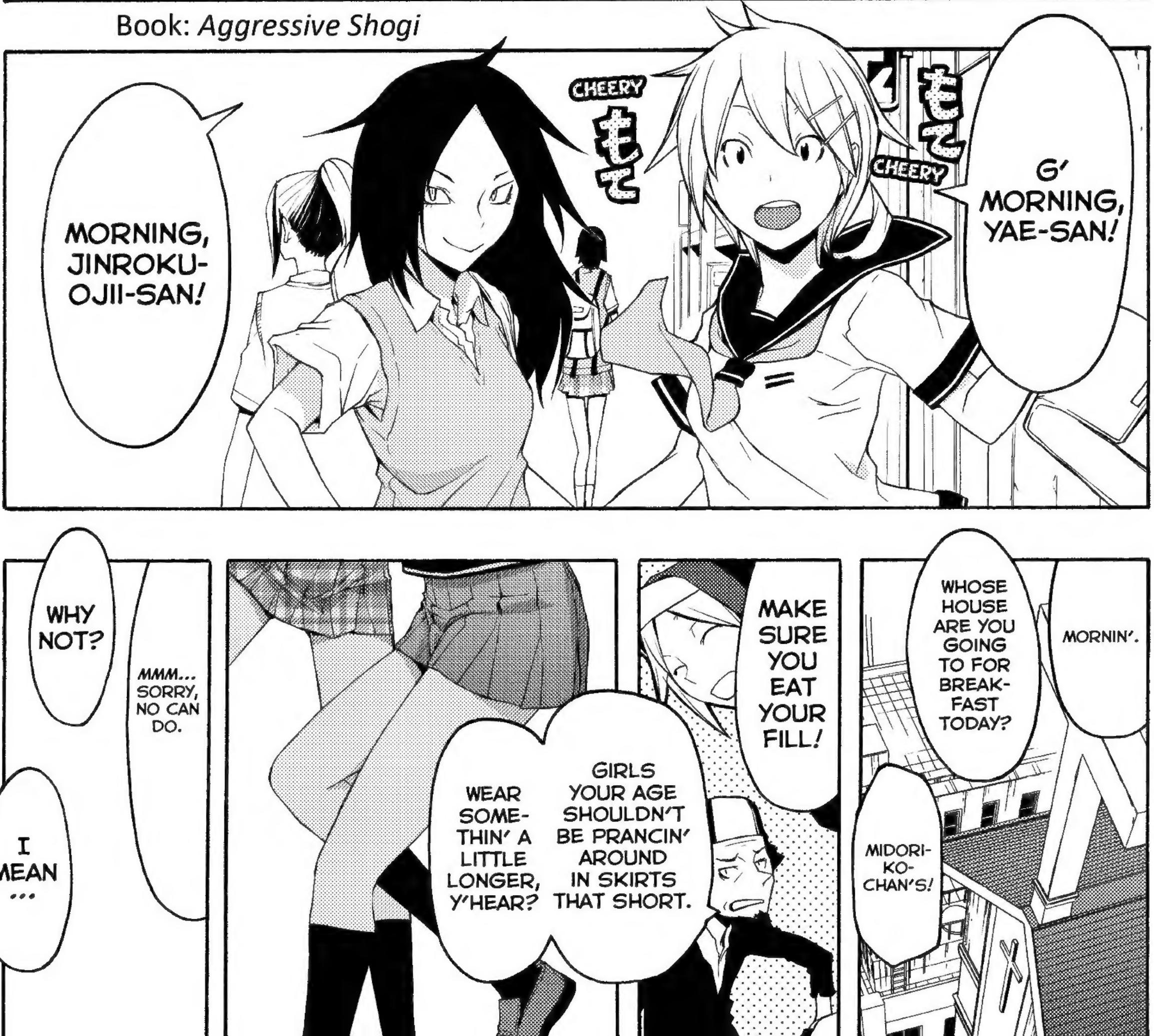
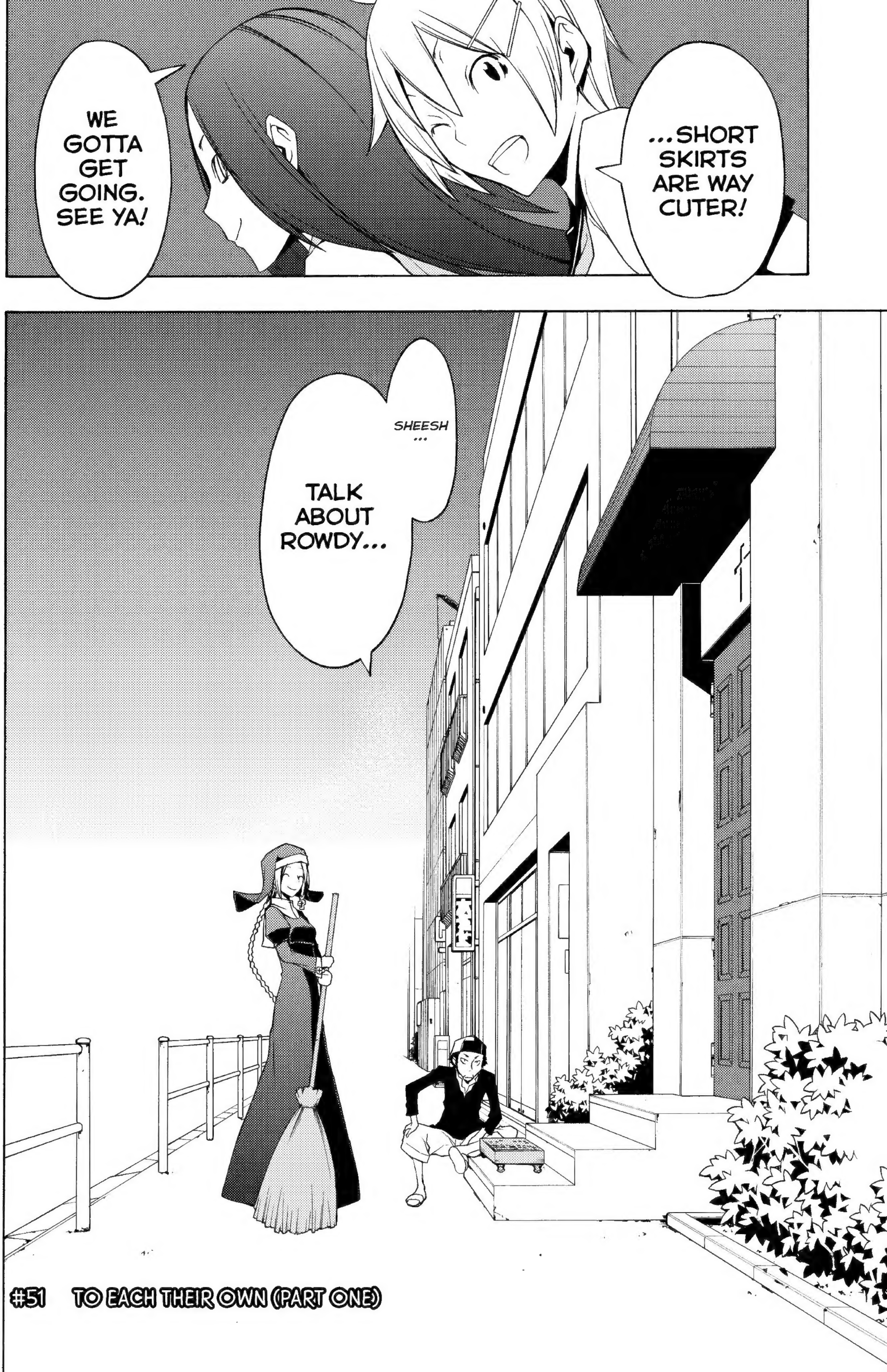


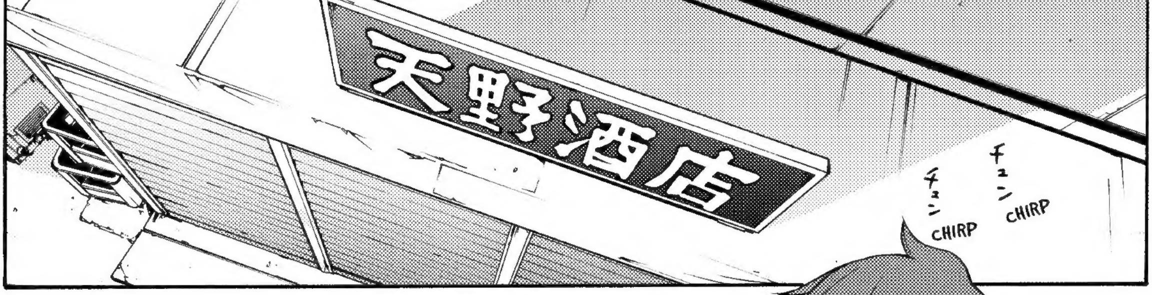

ばた
FLIP
ばた
FLIP
OH!
GOOD MORNING.
詰将棋

Book: *Aggressive Shogi*

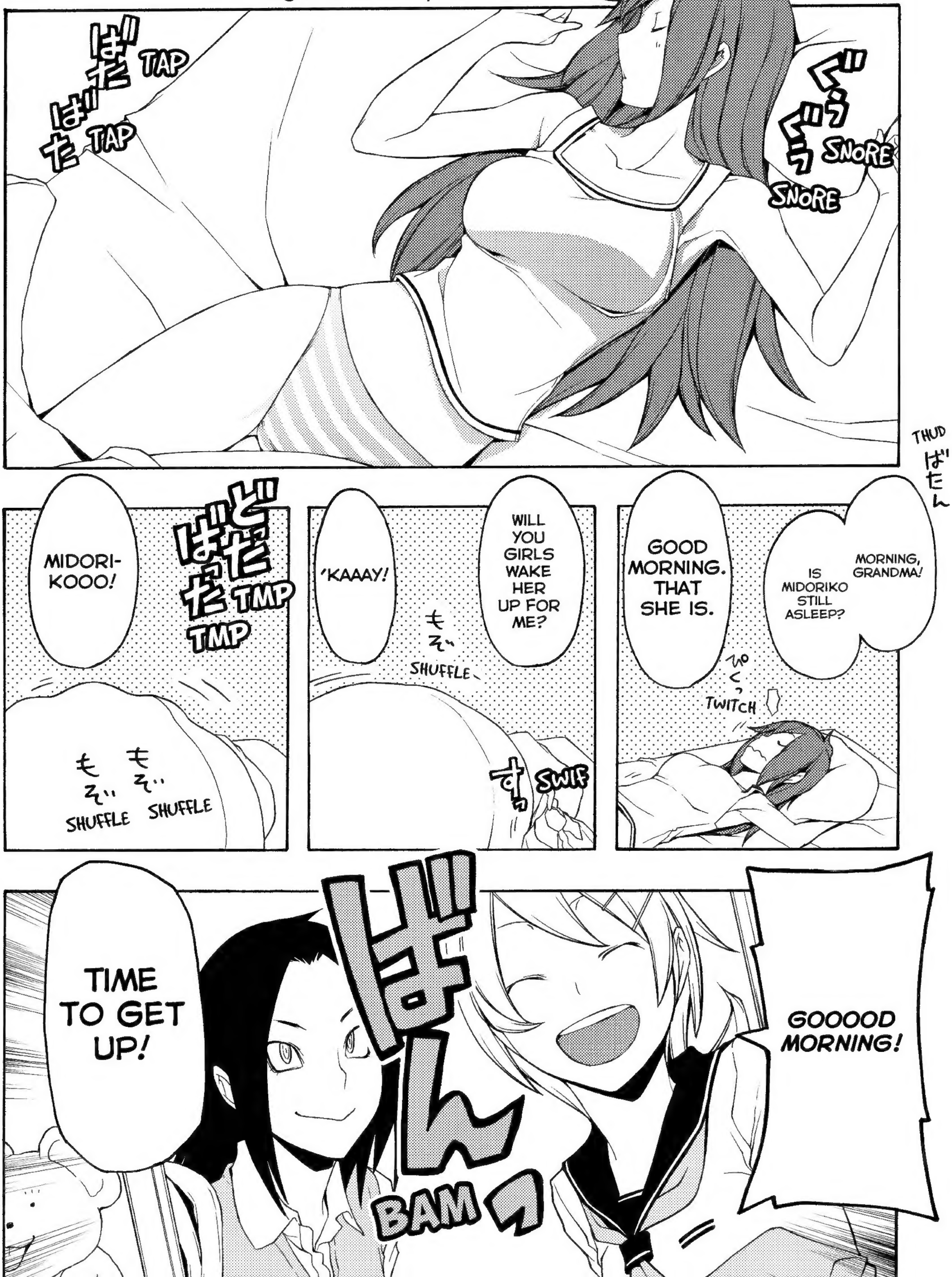

G' MORNING, YAE-SAN!
もて
CHEERY
もて
CHEERY
MORNING, JINROKU-OJII-SAN!
MORNIN'.
WHOSE HOUSE ARE YOU GOING TO FOR BREAKFAST TODAY?
MIDORIKO-CHAN'S!
MAKE SURE YOU EAT YOUR FILL!
GIRLS YOUR AGE SHOULDN'T BE PRANCIN' AROUND IN SKIRTS THAT SHORT.
WEAR SOMETHIN' A LITTLE LONGER, Y'HEAR?
MMM... SORRY, NO CAN DO.
WHY NOT?
I MEAN...

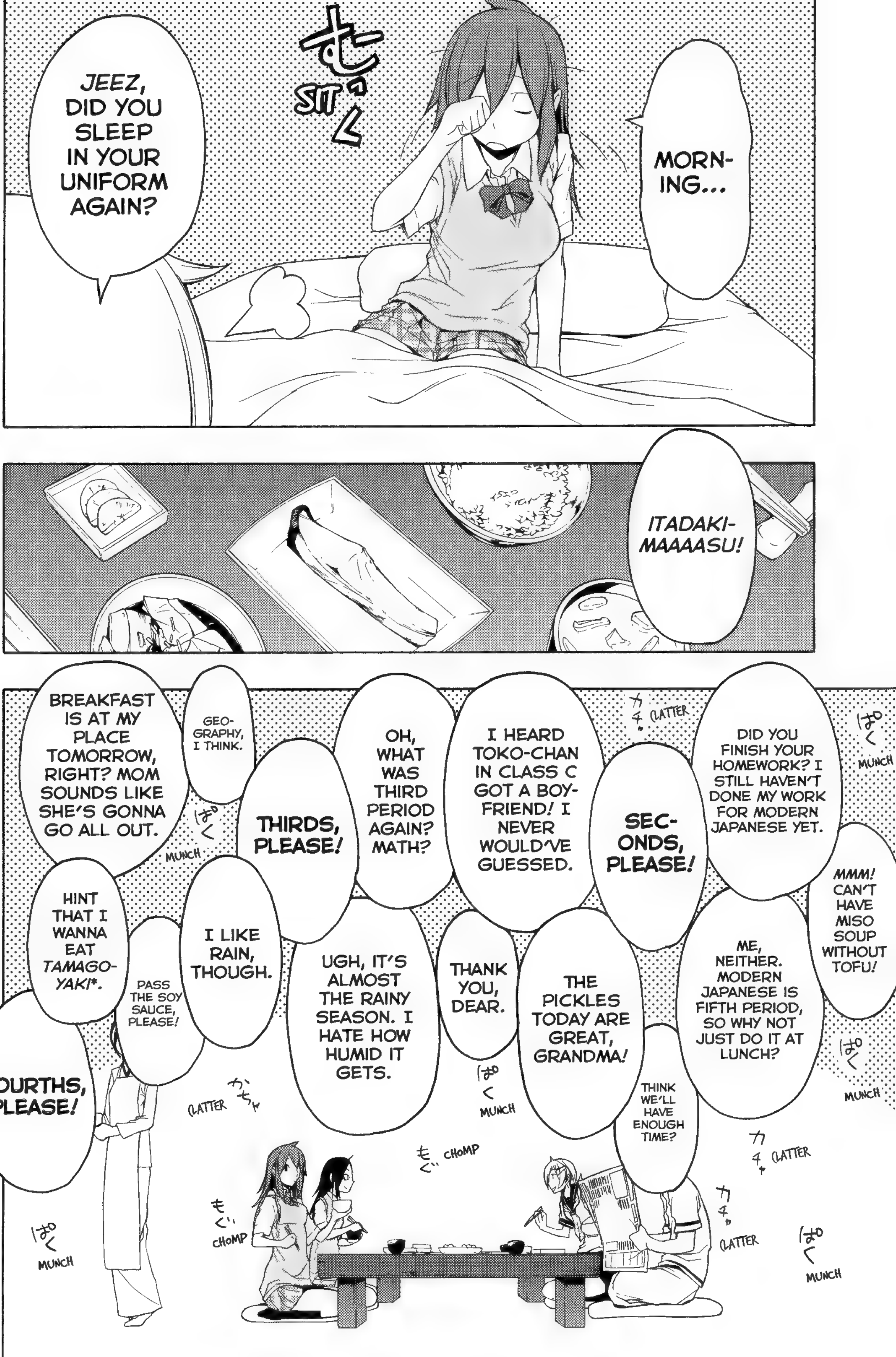

...SHORT SKIRTS ARE WAY CUTER!
WE GOTTA GET GOING. SEE YA!
SHEESH ...
TALK ABOUT ROWDY...

#51 TO EACH THEIR OWN (PART ONE)

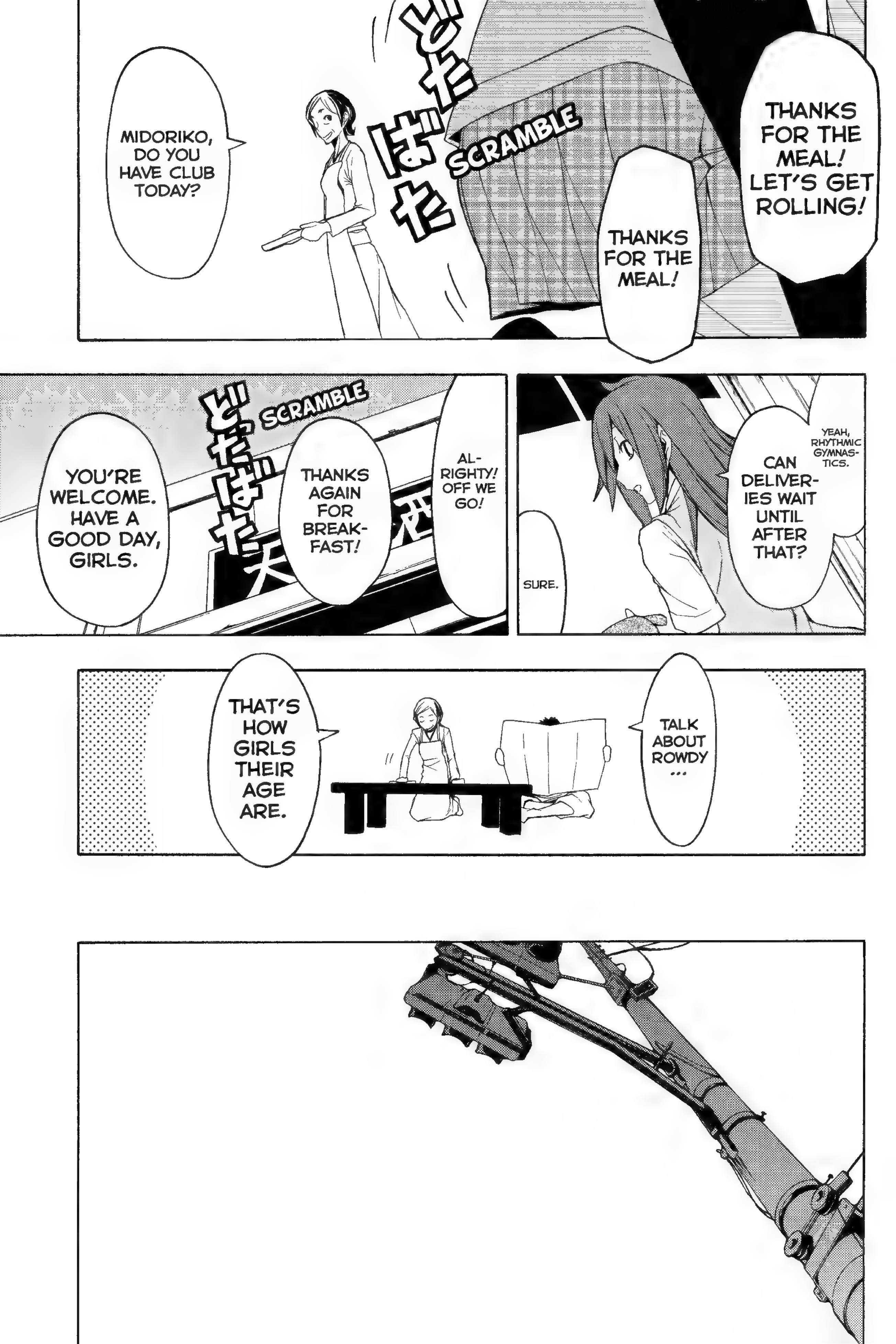

天野酒店
チュン CHIRP
チュン CHIRP

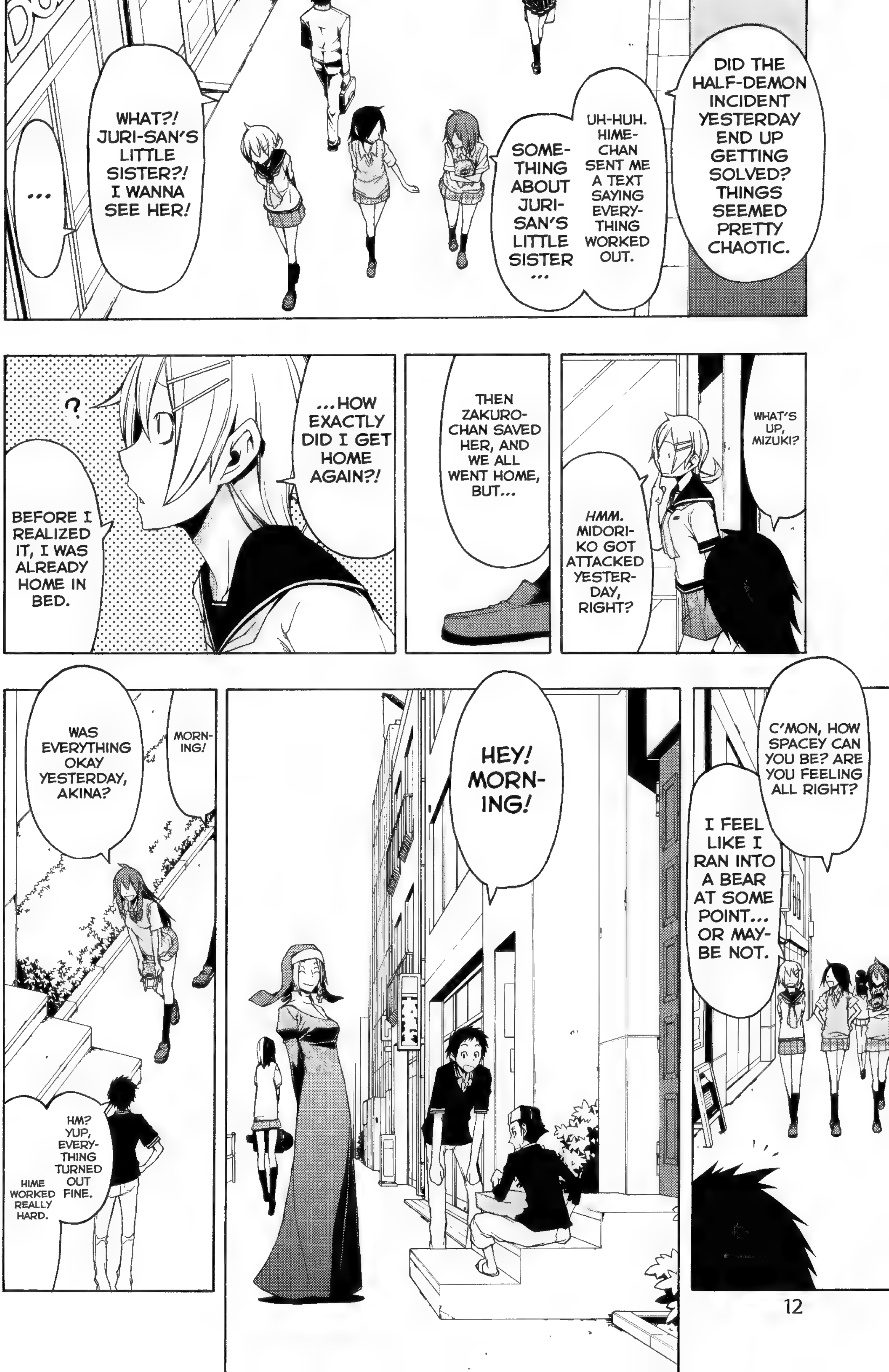
Sign: Amano Liquor

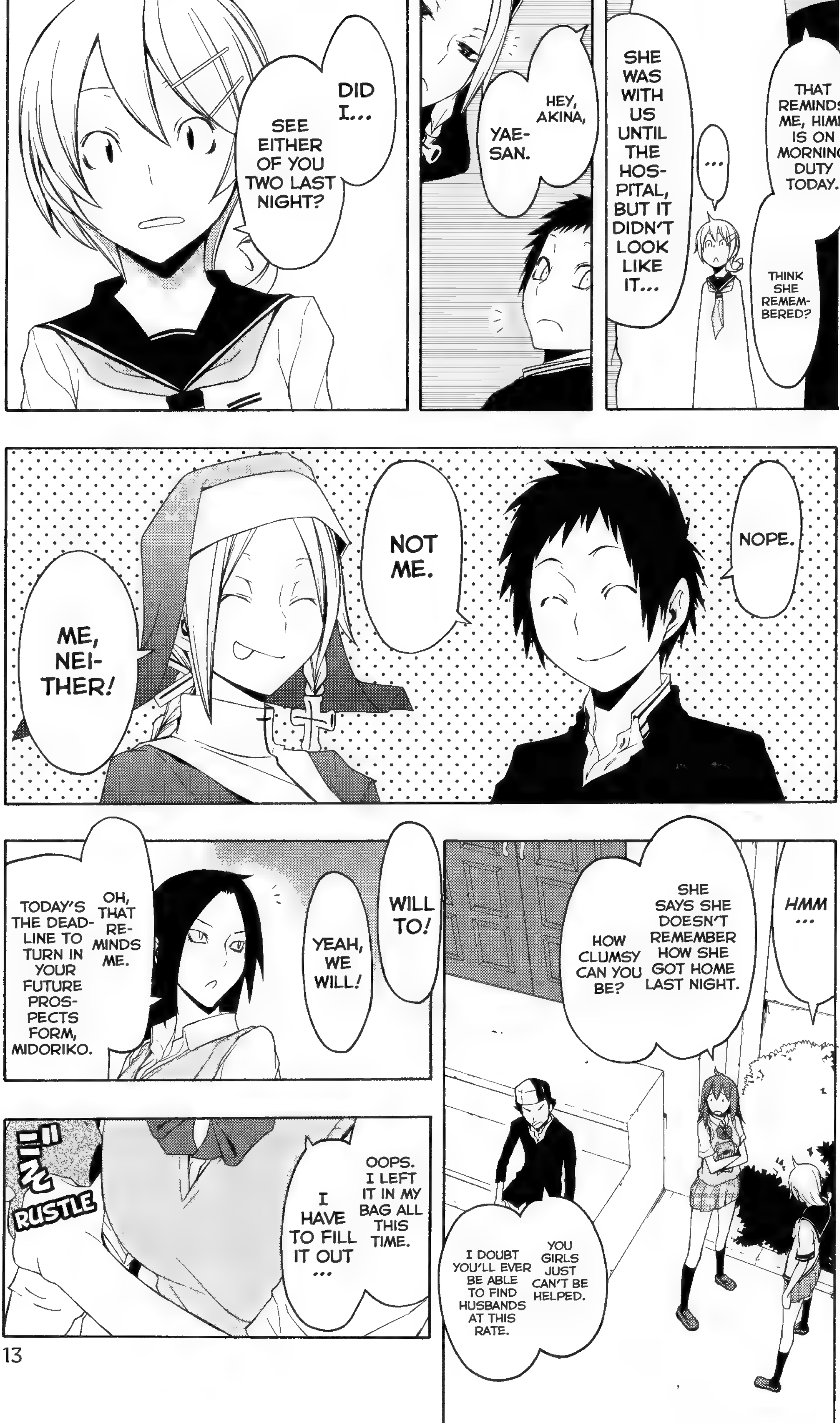

ぐぅ SNORE
ぐぅ SNORE
ばた TAP
ばた TAP
THUD ばたん
MORNING, GRANDMA!
IS MIDORIKO STILL ASLEEP?
GOOD MORNING. THAT SHE IS.
ぴくっ TWITCH
WILL YOU GIRLS WAKE HER UP FOR ME?
'KAAAY!
もぞ SHUFFLE
すっ SWIF
どたばた TMP TMP
MIDORI-KOOO!
もぞ SHUFFLE
もぞ SHUFFLE
GOOOOD MORNING!
ばん BAM
TIME TO GET UP!

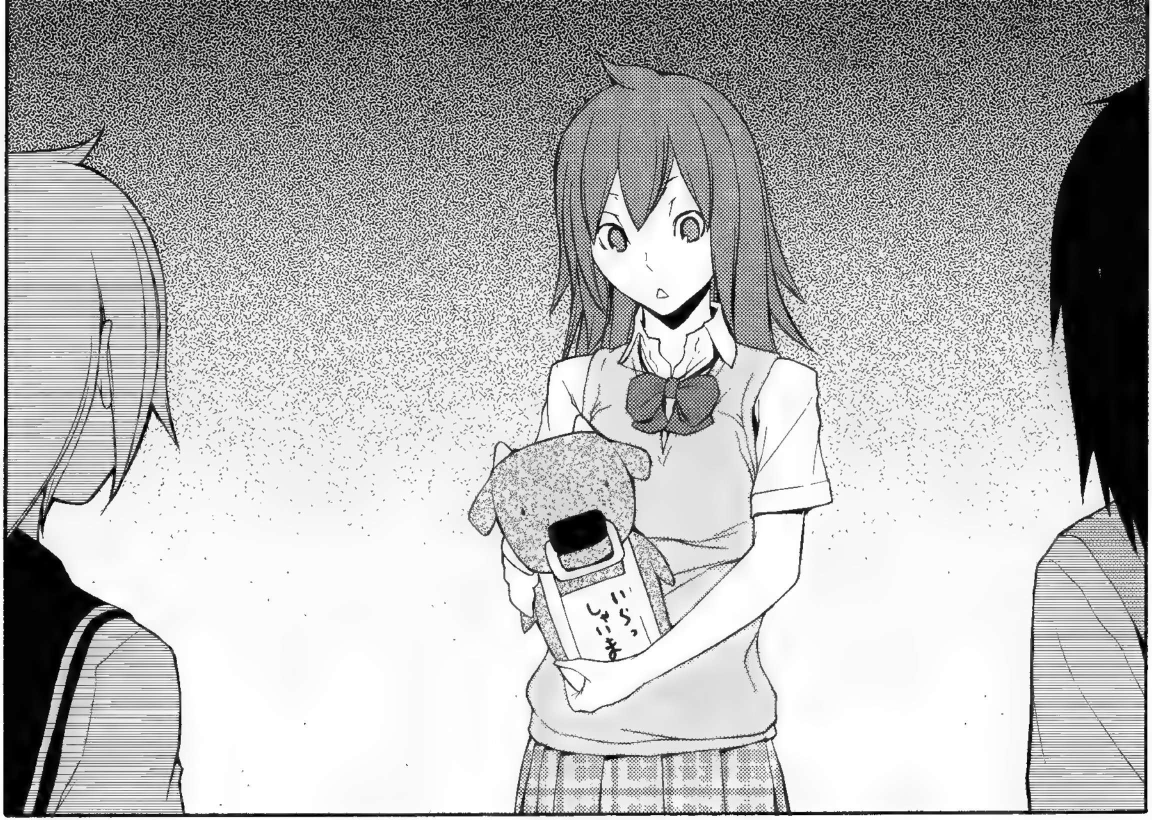

MORNING...
むっく
SIT
JEEZ, DID YOU SLEEP IN YOUR UNIFORM AGAIN?
ITADAKIMAAAASU!
ぱく MUNCH
DID YOU FINISH YOUR HOMEWORK? I STILL HAVEN'T DONE MY WORK FOR MODERN JAPANESE YET.
カチャ CLATTER
MMM! CAN'T HAVE MISO SOUP WITHOUT TOFU!
ME, NEITHER. MODERN JAPANESE IS FIFTH PERIOD, SO WHY NOT JUST DO IT AT LUNCH?
ぱく MUNCH
THINK WE'LL HAVE ENOUGH TIME?
SECONDS, PLEASE!
I HEARD TOKO-CHAN IN CLASS C GOT A BOYFRIEND! I NEVER WOULD'VE GUESSED.
THE PICKLES TODAY ARE GREAT, GRANDMA!
THANK YOU, DEAR.
ぱく MUNCH
OH, WHAT WAS THIRD PERIOD AGAIN? MATH?
GEOGRAPHY, I THINK.
UGH, IT'S ALMOST THE RAINY SEASON. I HATE HOW HUMID IT GETS.
I LIKE RAIN, THOUGH.
THIRDS, PLEASE!
ぱく MUNCH
BREAKFAST IS AT MY PLACE TOMORROW, RIGHT? MOM SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S GONNA GO ALL OUT.
HINT THAT I WANNA EAT *TAMAGOYAKI**.
PASS THE SOY SAUCE, PLEASE!
FOURTHS, PLEASE!
カチャ CLATTER
カチャ CLATTER
ぱく MUNCH
もぐ CHOMP
もぐ CHOMP
カチャ CLATTER
ぱく MUNCH

**Tamagoyaki* is a Japanese-style omelet, typically rolled.

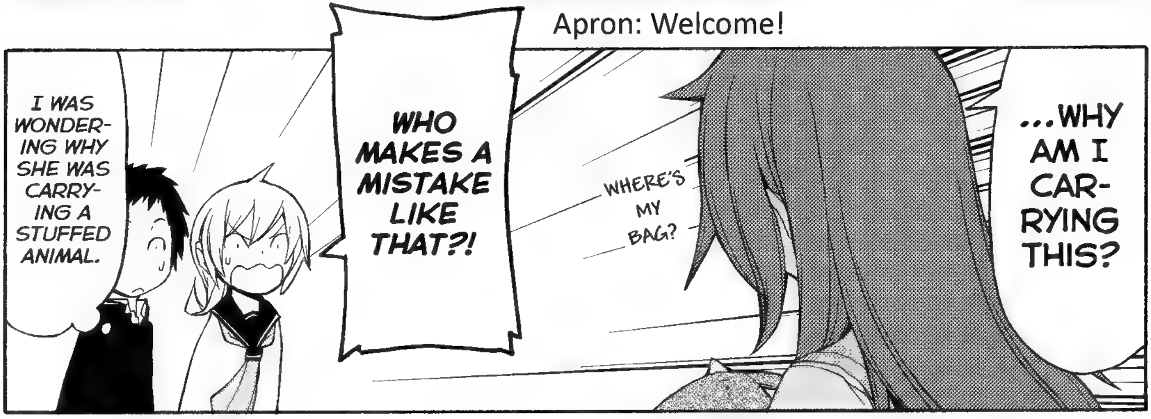

THANKS FOR THE MEAL! LET'S GET ROLLING!
THANKS FOR THE MEAL!
どたばた
SCRAMBLE
MIDORIKO, DO YOU HAVE CLUB TODAY?
YEAH, RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS.
CAN DELIVERIES WAIT UNTIL AFTER THAT?
SURE.
ALRIGHTY! OFF WE GO!
THANKS AGAIN FOR BREAKFAST!
どたばた
SCRAMBLE
天 西
YOU'RE WELCOME. HAVE A GOOD DAY, GIRLS.
TALK ABOUT ROWDY...
THAT'S HOW GIRLS THEIR AGE ARE.

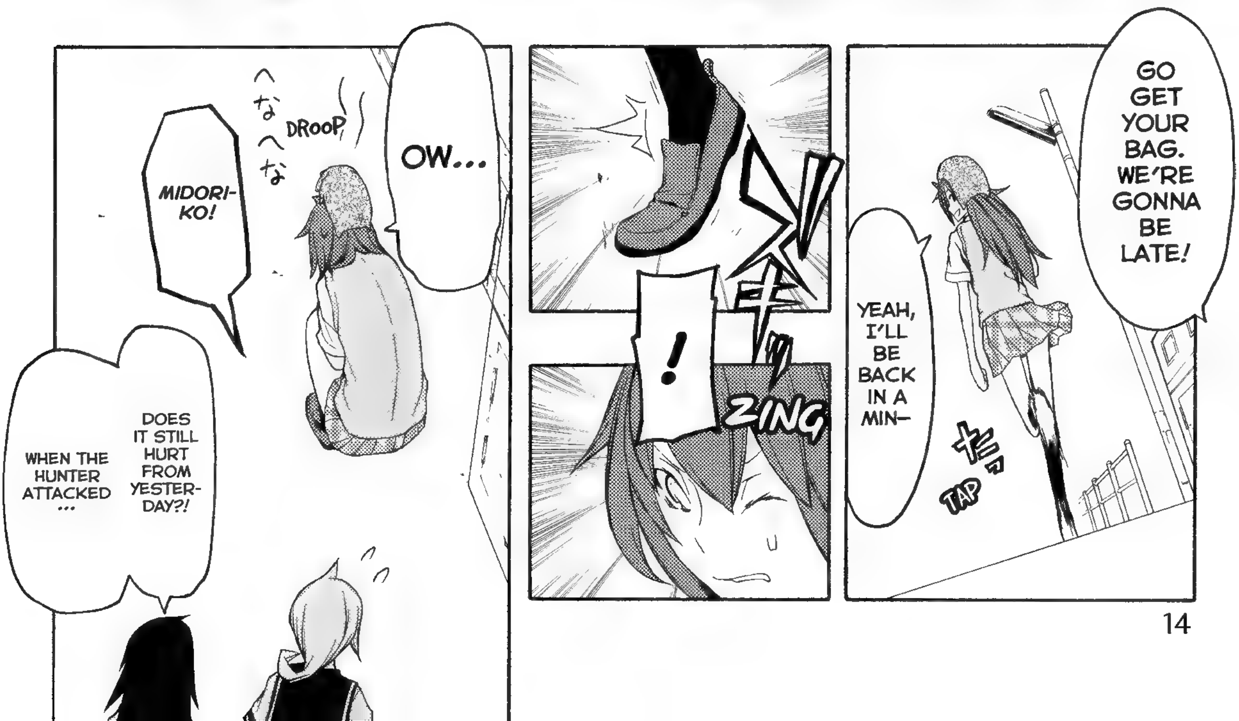

DID THE HALF-DEMON INCIDENT YESTERDAY END UP GETTING SOLVED? THINGS SEEMED PRETTY CHAOTIC.
UH-HUH. HIME-CHAN SENT ME A TEXT SAYING EVERYTHING WORKED OUT.
SOMETHING ABOUT JURI-SAN'S LITTLE SISTER...
WHAT?! JURI-SAN'S LITTLE SISTER?! I WANNA SEE HER!
...
WHAT'S UP, MIZUKI?
HMM. MIDORIKO GOT ATTACKED YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
THEN ZAKURO-CHAN SAVED HER, AND WE ALL WENT HOME, BUT...
?
...HOW EXACTLY DID I GET HOME AGAIN?!
BEFORE I REALIZED IT, I WAS ALREADY HOME IN BED.
C'MON, HOW SPACEY CAN YOU BE? ARE YOU FEELING ALL RIGHT?
I FEEL LIKE I RAN INTO A BEAR AT SOME POINT... OR MAYBE NOT.
HEY! MORNING!
MORNING!
WAS EVERYTHING OKAY YESTERDAY, AKINA?
HM? YUP, EVERYTHING TURNED OUT FINE.
HIME WORKED REALLY HARD.

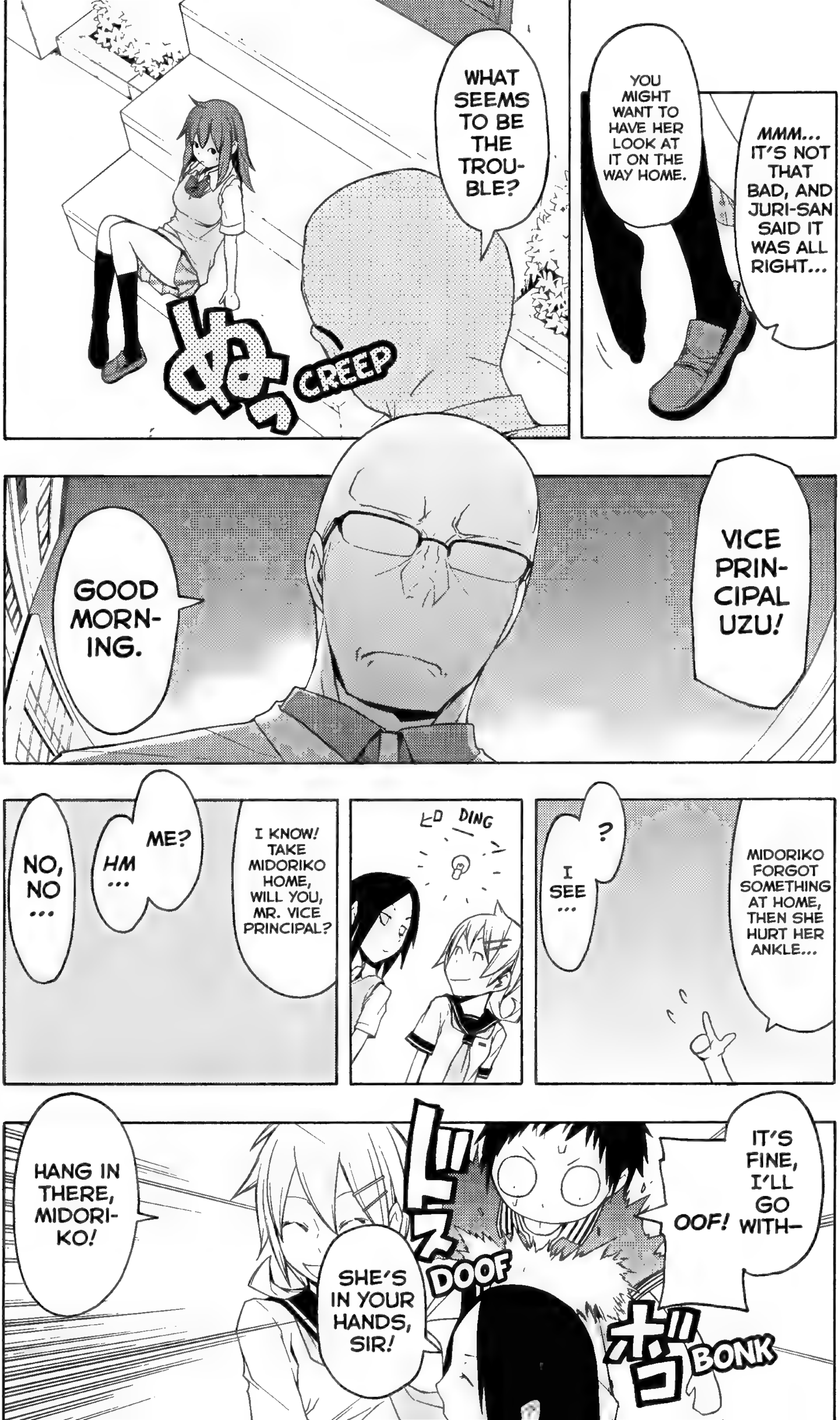

THAT REMINDS ME, HIME IS ON MORNING DUTY TODAY.
THINK SHE REMEMBERED?
...
SHE WAS WITH US UNTIL THE HOSPITAL, BUT IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE IT...
HEY, AKINA,
YAE-SAN.
DID I...
SEE EITHER OF YOU TWO LAST NIGHT?
NOPE.
NOT ME.
ME, NEITHER!
HMM...
SHE SAYS SHE DOESN'T REMEMBER HOW SHE GOT HOME LAST NIGHT.
HOW CLUMSY CAN YOU BE?
YOU GIRLS JUST CAN'T BE HELPED.
I DOUBT YOU'LL EVER BE ABLE TO FIND HUSBANDS AT THIS RATE.
WILL TO!
YEAH, WE WILL!
OH, THAT REMINDS ME.
TODAY'S THE DEADLINE TO TURN IN YOUR FUTURE PROSPECTS FORM, MIDORIKO.
OOPS. I LEFT IT IN MY BAG ALL THIS TIME.
I HAVE TO FILL IT OUT...
RUSTLE

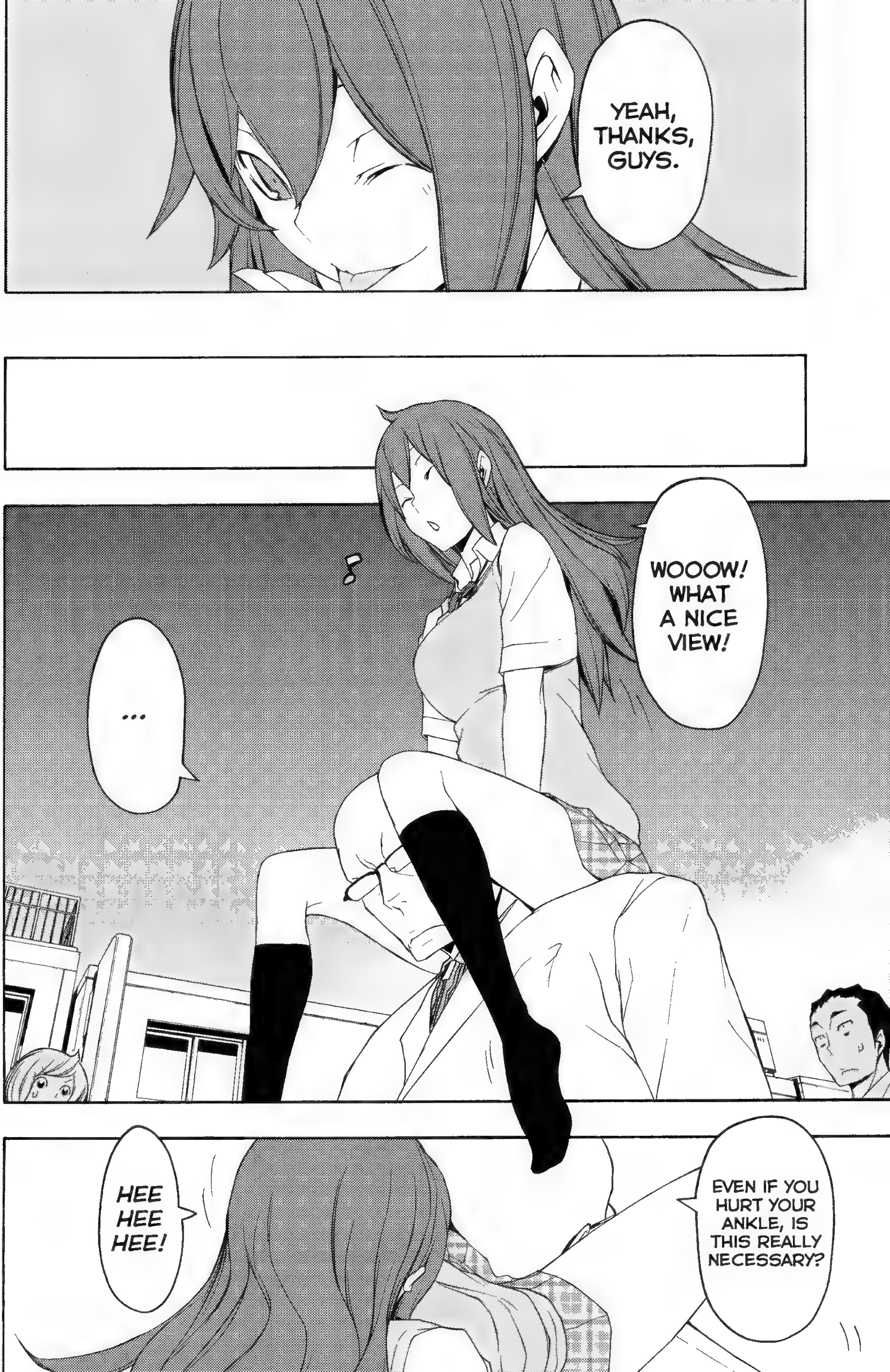


Apron: Welcome!

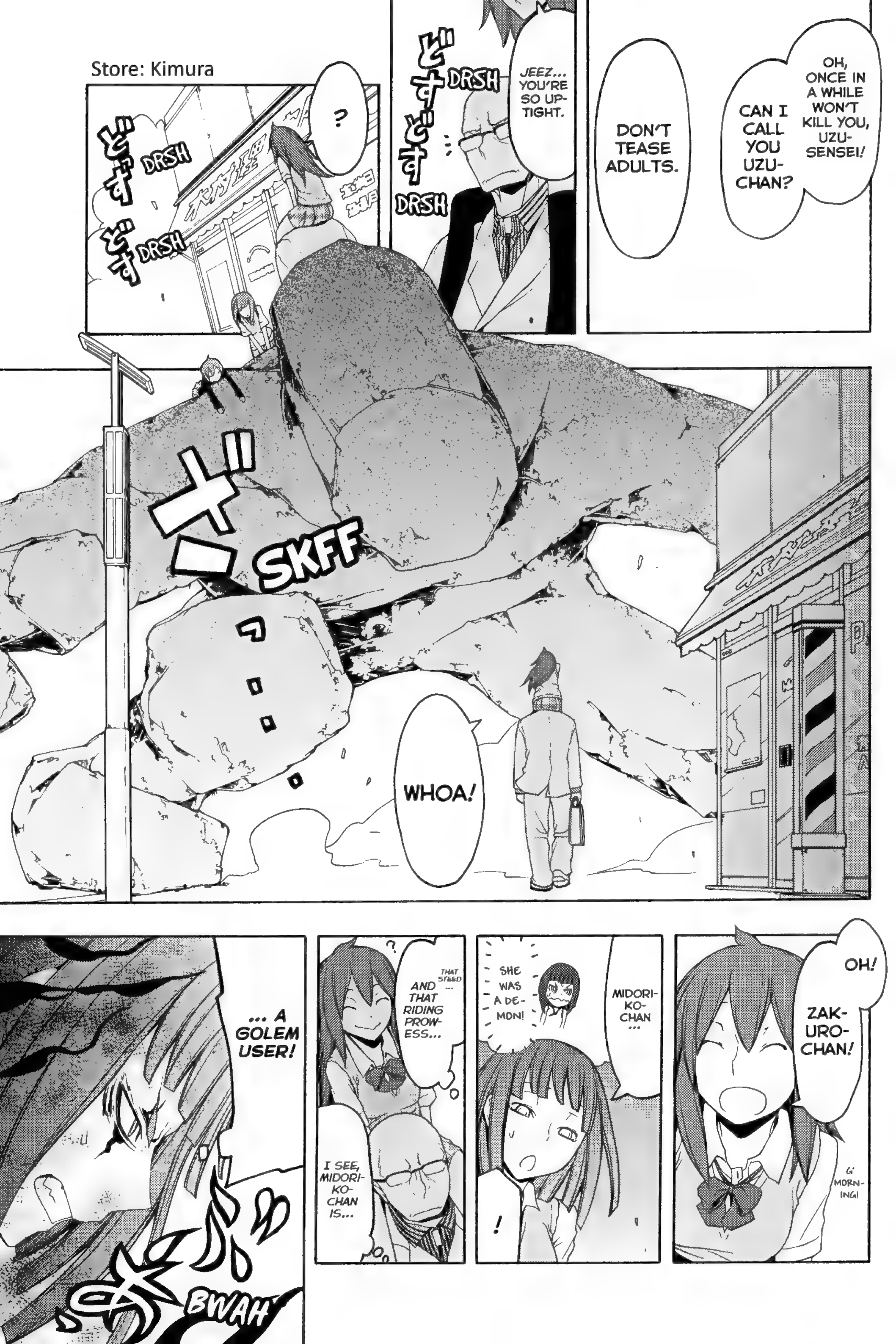

...WHY AM I CARRYING THIS?
WHERE'S MY BAG?
WHO MAKES A MISTAKE LIKE THAT?!
I WAS WONDERING WHY SHE WAS CARRYING A STUFFED ANIMAL.

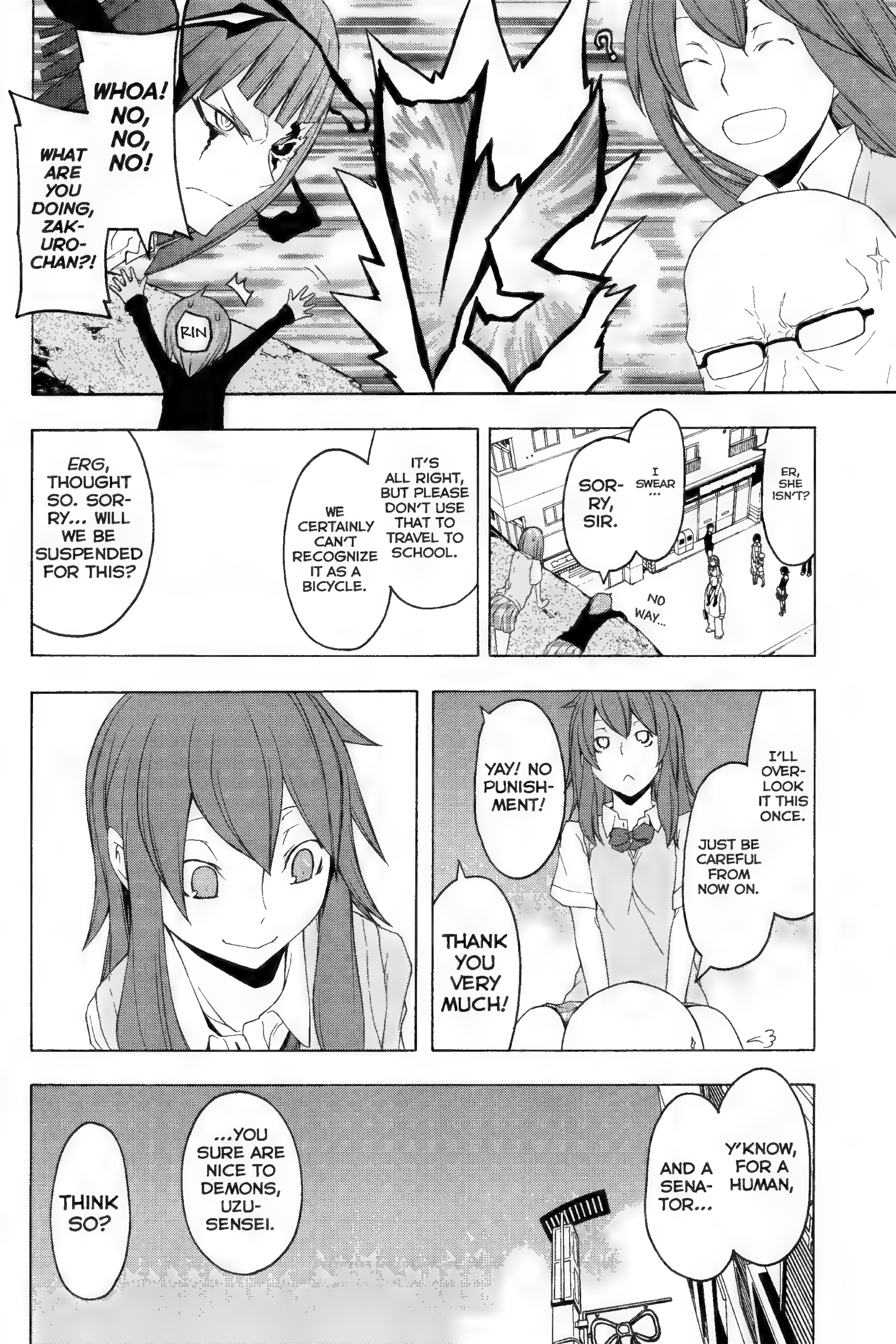

GO GET YOUR BAG. WE'RE GONNA BE LATE!
YEAH, I'LL BE BACK IN A MIN—
タッ
TAP
ズキッ
!
ZING
OW...
へなへな
DROOP
MIDORIKO!
DOES IT STILL HURT FROM YESTERDAY?!
WHEN THE HUNTER ATTACKED...

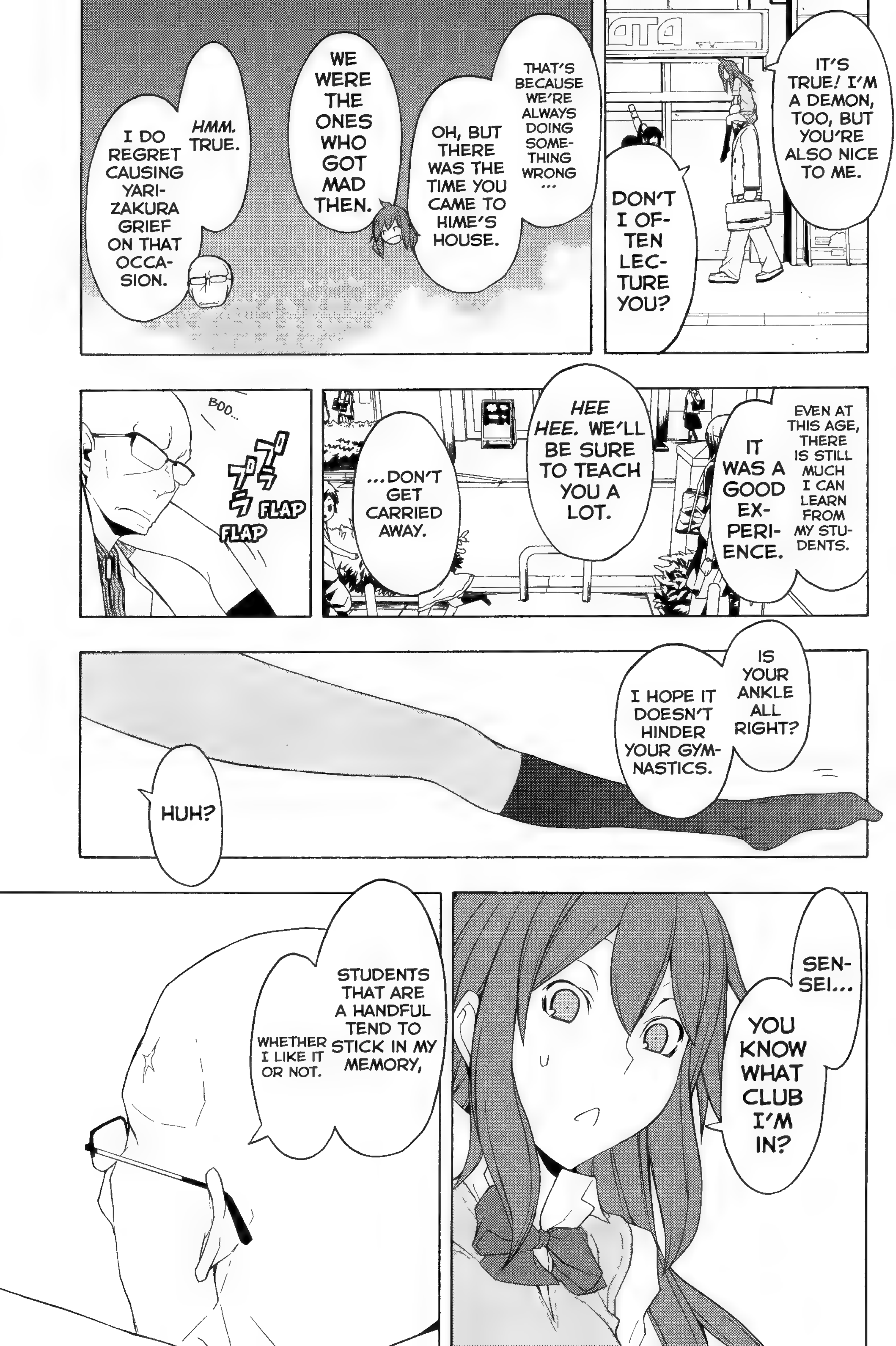

MMM... IT'S NOT THAT BAD, AND JURI-SAN SAID IT WAS ALL RIGHT...
YOU MIGHT WANT TO HAVE HER LOOK AT IT ON THE WAY HOME.
WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE TROUBLE?
ぬっ CREEP
VICE PRINCIPAL UZU!
GOOD MORNING.
MIDORIKO FORGOT SOMETHING AT HOME, THEN SHE HURT HER ANKLE...
?
I SEE...
ピコ DING
I KNOW! TAKE MIDORIKO HOME, WILL YOU, MR. VICE PRINCIPAL?
ME?
HM...
NO, NO...
IT'S FINE, I'LL GO WITH—
OOF!
ボゴ BONK
ドス DOOF
SHE'S IN YOUR HANDS, SIR!
HANG IN THERE, MIDORIKO!

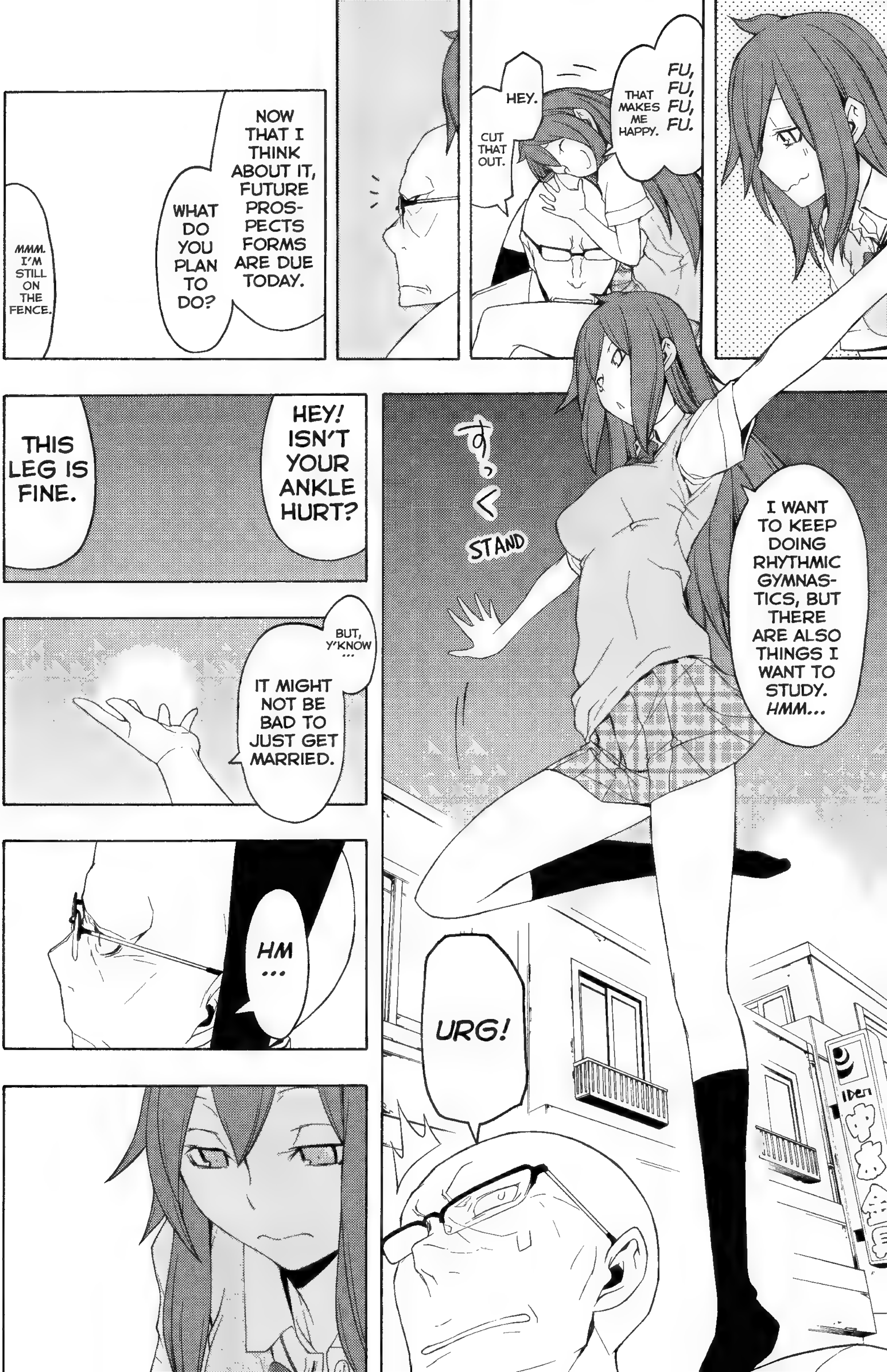

YEAH, THANKS, GUYS.
WOOOW! WHAT A NICE VIEW!
...
EVEN IF YOU HURT YOUR ANKLE, IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY?
HEE HEE HEE!

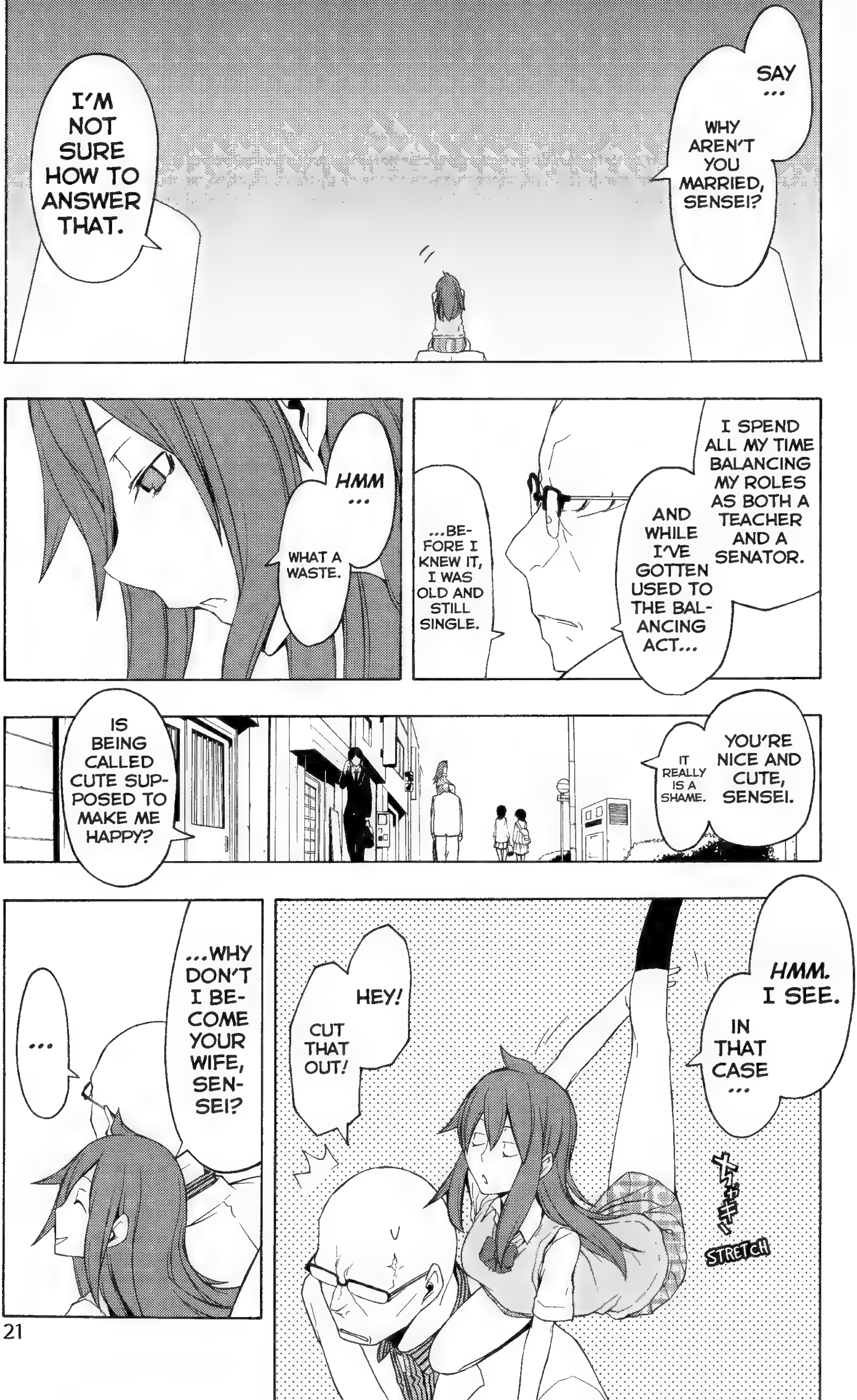
Store: Kimura

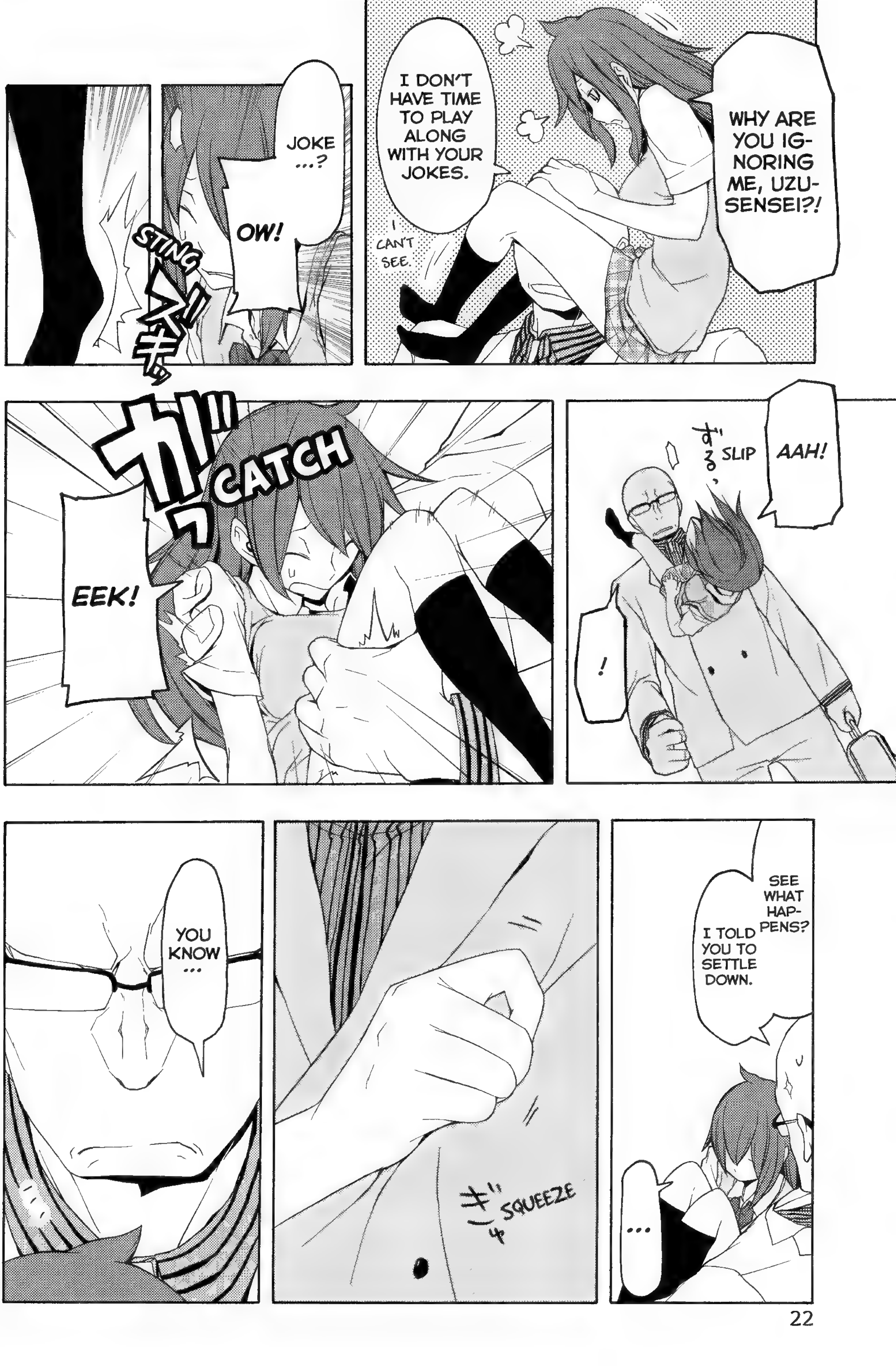

OH, ONCE IN A WHILE WON'T KILL YOU, UZU-SENSEI!
CAN I CALL YOU UZU-CHAN?
DON'T TEASE ADULTS.
JEEZ... YOU'RE SO UP-TIGHT.
どすどす DRSH DRSH
...
?
どすどす DRSH DRSH
ズザーッ SKFF
WHOA!
OH!
ZAKURO-CHAN!
G' MORNING!
MIDORI-KO-CHAN...
SHE WAS A DEMON!
!
?
THAT STEED...
AND THAT RIDING PROWESS...
I SEE, MIDORI-KO-CHAN IS...
... A GOLEM USER!
ぶわ BWAH

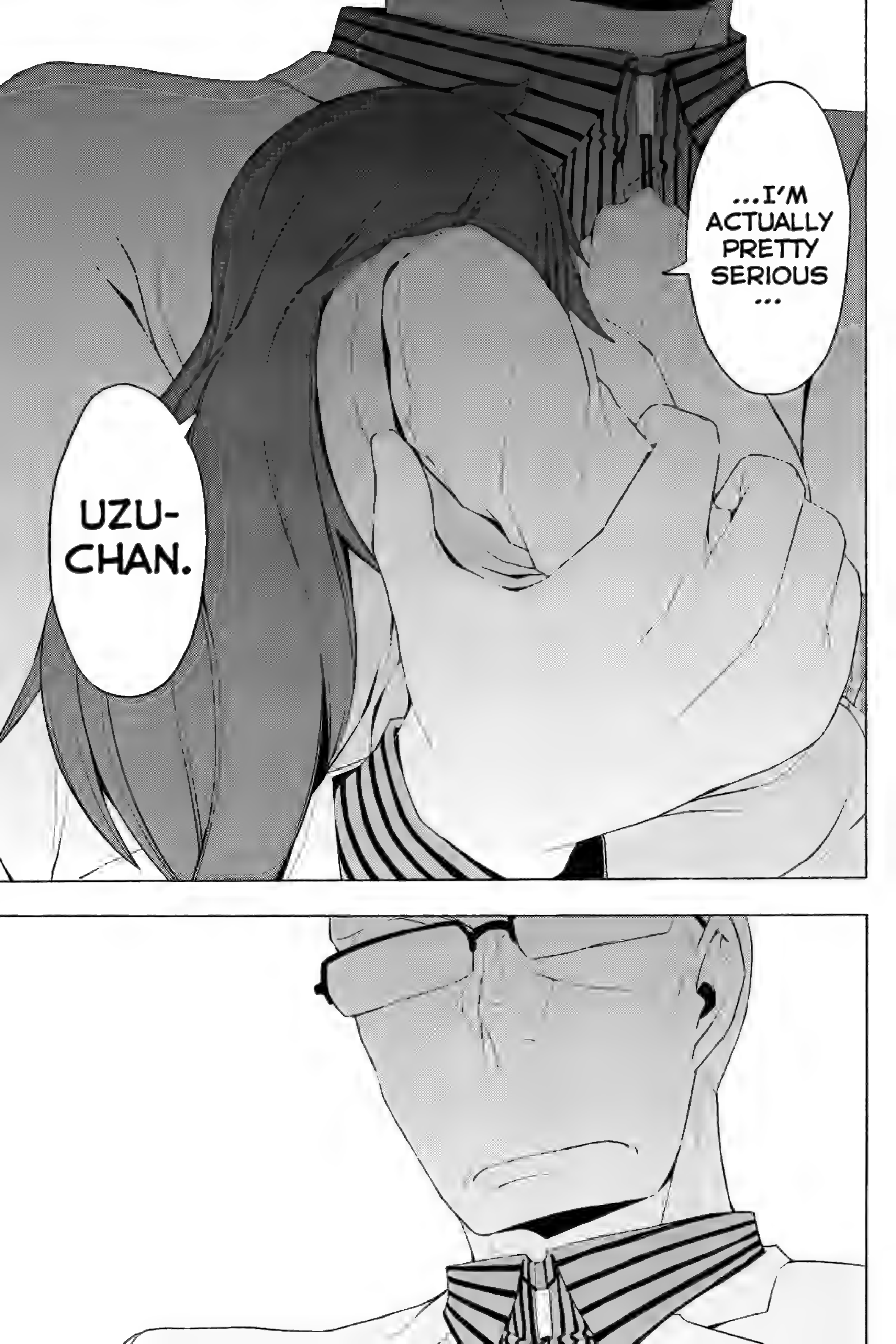

?
WHOA! NO, NO, NO!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ZAKUROCHAN?!
RIN
ER, SHE ISN'T?
I SWEAR...
SORRY, SIR.
NO WAY...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, BUT PLEASE DON'T USE THAT TO TRAVEL TO SCHOOL.
WE CERTAINLY CAN'T RECOGNIZE IT AS A BICYCLE.
ERG, THOUGHT SO. SORRY... WILL WE BE SUSPENDED FOR THIS?
I'LL OVERLOOK IT THIS ONCE.
JUST BE CAREFUL FROM NOW ON.
YAY! NO PUNISHMENT!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
Y'KNOW, FOR A HUMAN,
AND A SENATOR...
...YOU SURE ARE NICE TO DEMONS, UZU-SENSEI.
THINK SO?

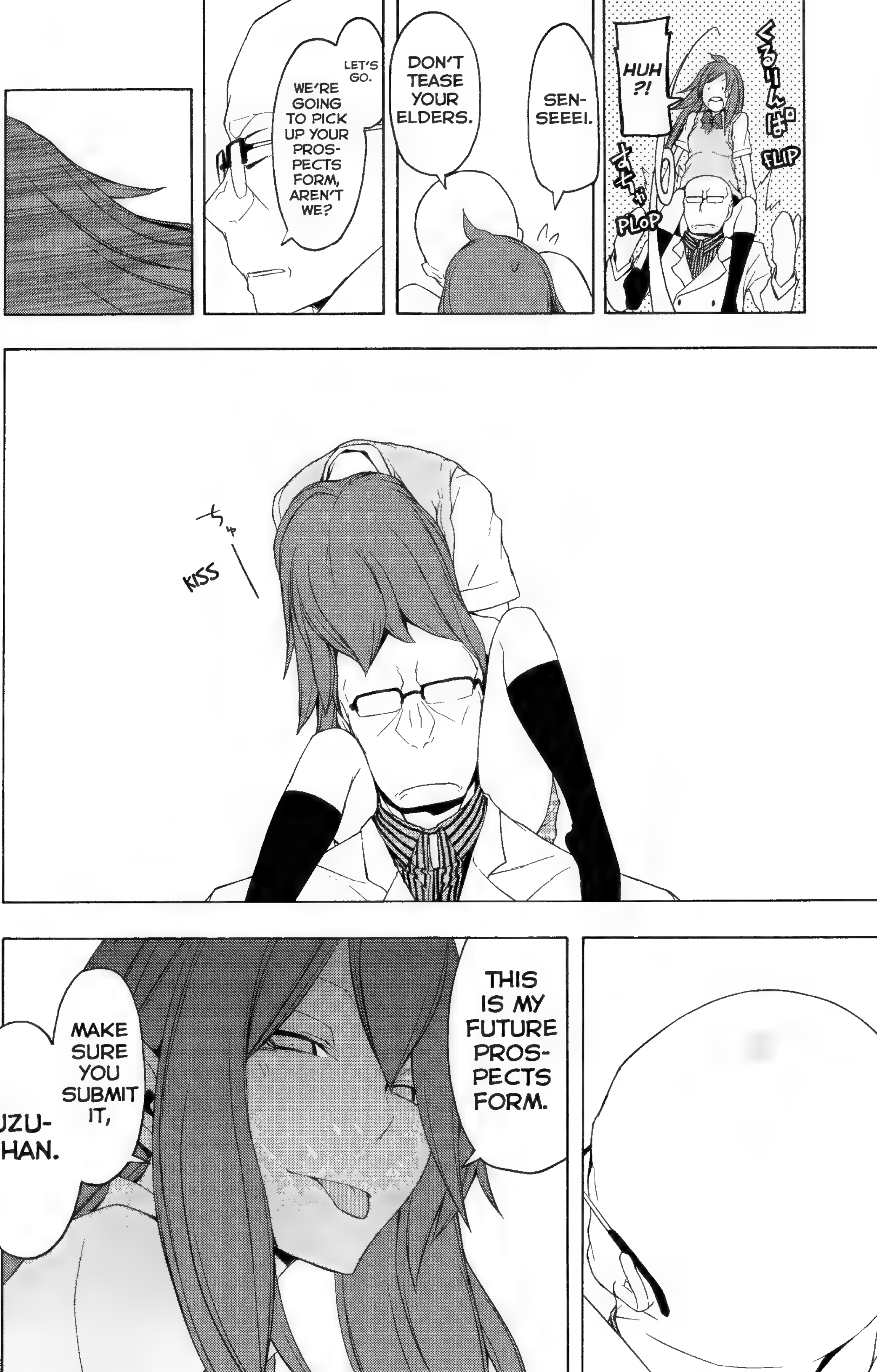

IT'S TRUE! I'M A DEMON, TOO, BUT YOU'RE ALSO NICE TO ME.
DON'T I OFTEN LECTURE YOU?
THAT'S BECAUSE WE'RE ALWAYS DOING SOMETHING WRONG...
OH, BUT THERE WAS THE TIME YOU CAME TO HIME'S HOUSE.
WE WERE THE ONES WHO GOT MAD THEN.
HMM. TRUE.
I DO REGRET CAUSING YARIZAKURA GRIEF ON THAT OCCASION.
EVEN AT THIS AGE, THERE IS STILL MUCH I CAN LEARN FROM MY STUDENTS.
IT WAS A GOOD EXPERIENCE.
HEE HEE. WE'LL BE SURE TO TEACH YOU A LOT.
...DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY.
BOO...
プラ プラ
FLAP FLAP
IS YOUR ANKLE ALL RIGHT?
I HOPE IT DOESN'T HINDER YOUR GYMNASTICS.
HUH?
SENSEI...
YOU KNOW WHAT CLUB I'M IN?
STUDENTS THAT ARE A HANDFUL TEND TO STICK IN MY MEMORY,
WHETHER I LIKE IT OR NOT.

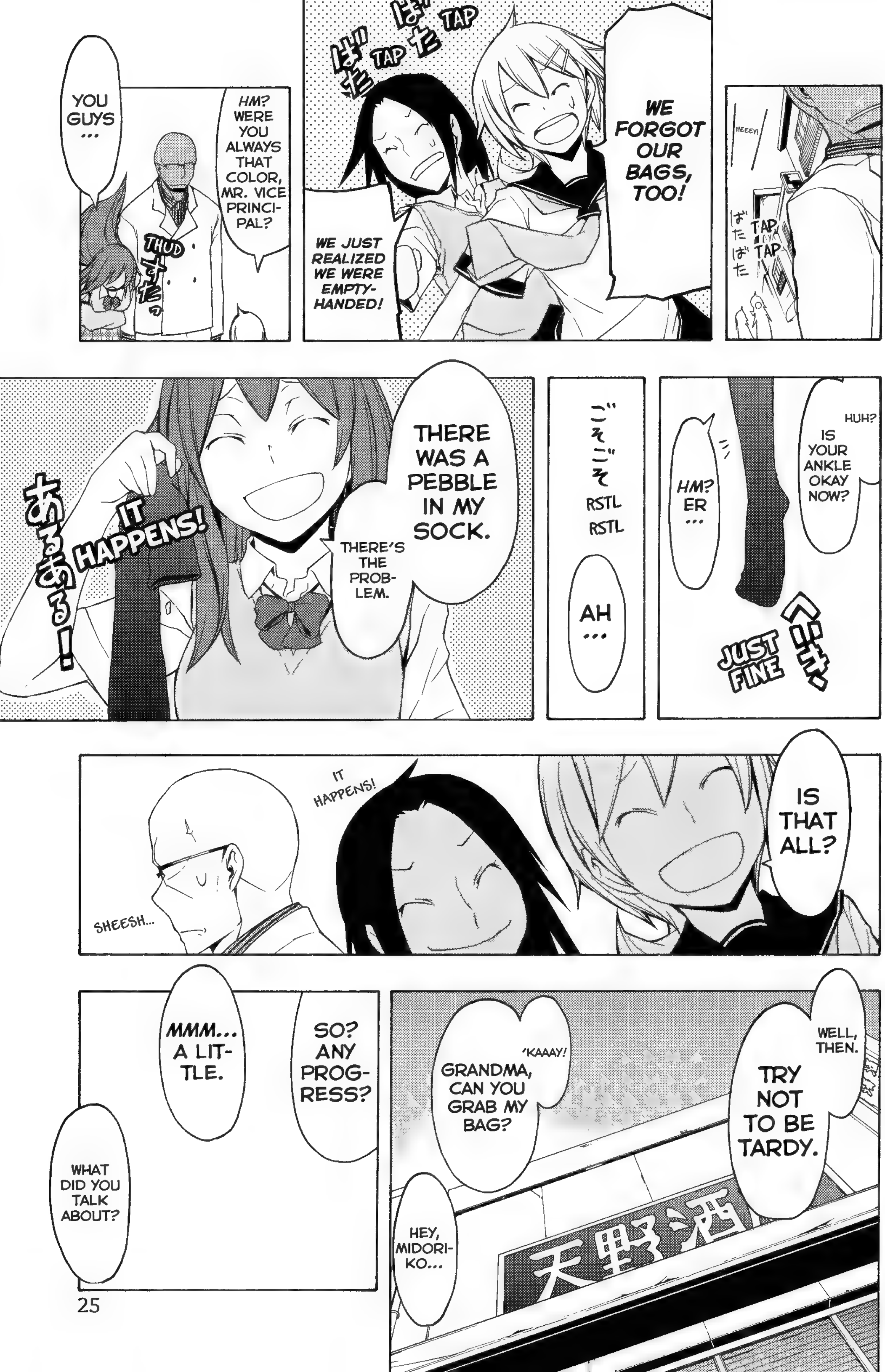

THAT MAKES ME HAPPY.
FU, FU, FU, FU.
HEY.
CUT THAT OUT.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, FUTURE PROSPECTS FORMS ARE DUE TODAY.
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO?
MMM. I'M STILL ON THE FENCE.
すっく
STAND
I WANT TO KEEP DOING RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS, BUT THERE ARE ALSO THINGS I WANT TO STUDY. HMM...
HEY! ISN'T YOUR ANKLE HURT?
THIS LEG IS FINE.
BUT, Y'KNOW...
IT MIGHT NOT BE BAD TO JUST GET MARRIED.
HM...
URG!

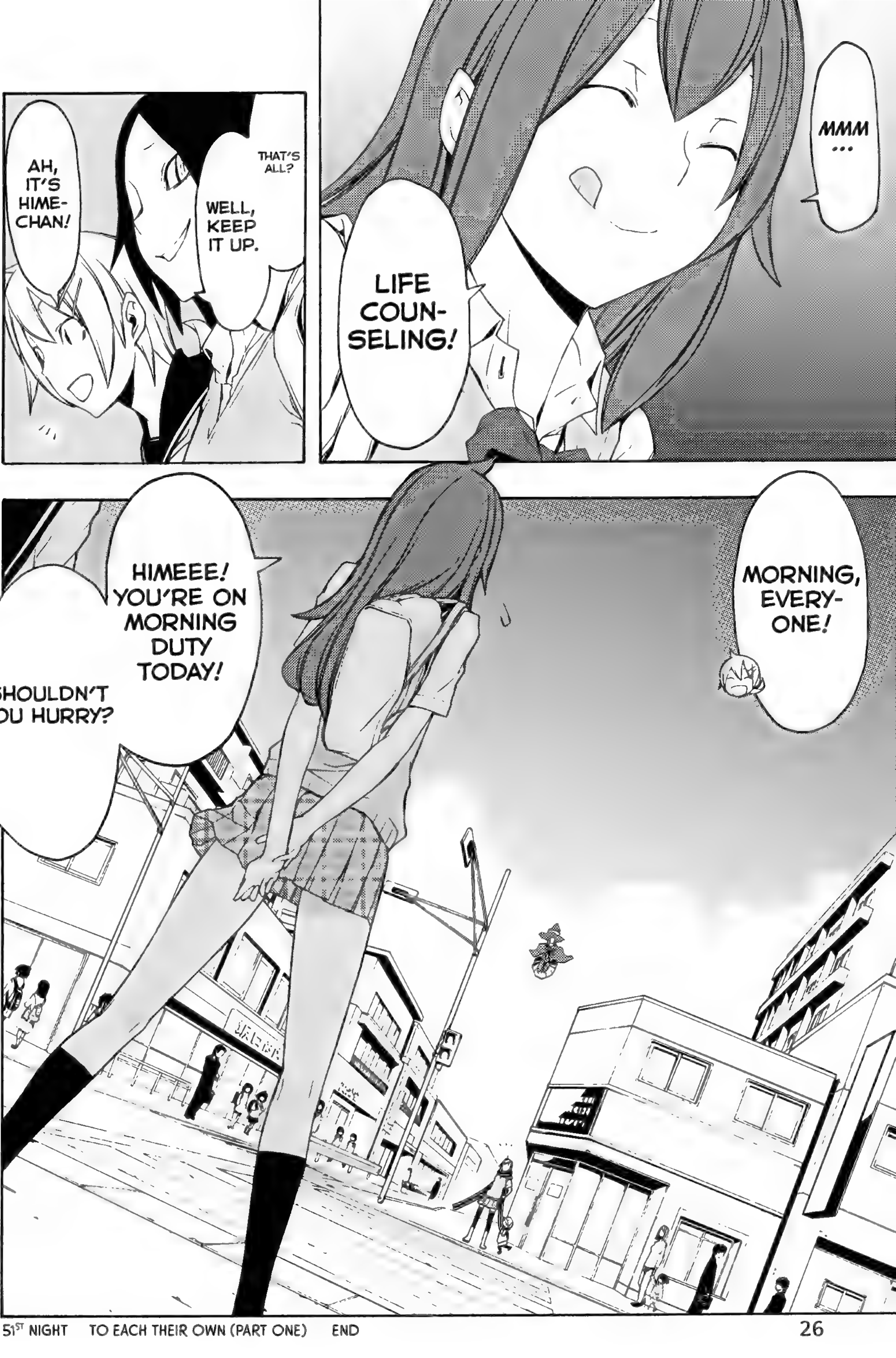

SAY... WHY AREN'T YOU MARRIED, SENSEI?
I'M NOT SURE HOW TO ANSWER THAT.
I SPEND ALL MY TIME BALANCING MY ROLES AS BOTH A TEACHER AND A SENATOR.
AND WHILE I'VE GOTTEN USED TO THE BALANCING ACT...
...BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS OLD AND STILL SINGLE.
HMM... WHAT A WASTE.
YOU'RE NICE AND CUTE, SENSEI.
IT REALLY IS A SHAME.
IS BEING CALLED CUTE SUPPOSED TO MAKE ME HAPPY?
HMM. I SEE. IN THAT CASE...
STRETCH
HEY! CUT THAT OUT!
...WHY DON'T I BECOME YOUR WIFE, SENSEI?
...


WHY ARE YOU IGNORING ME, UZU-SENSEI?!
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY ALONG WITH YOUR JOKES.
I CAN'T SEE.
JOKE ...?
OW!
ズキッ STING
AAH!
するっ SLIP
!
ガッ CATCH
EEK!
SEE WHAT HAPPENS?
I TOLD YOU TO SETTLE DOWN.
...
ギュ SQUEEZE
YOU KNOW ...

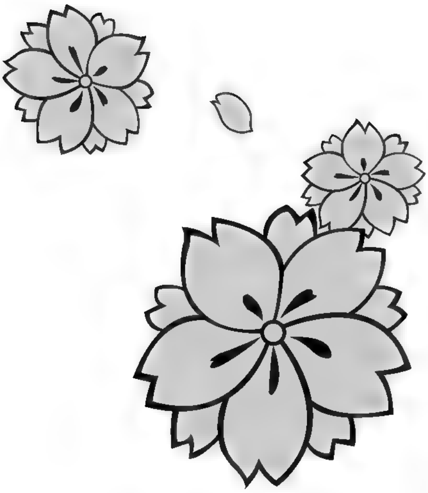

...I'M ACTUALLY PRETTY SERIOUS...
UZU-CHAN.


くるりんぱ
FLIP
HUH?!
すとっ
PLOP
SEN-SEEEI.
DON'T TEASE YOUR ELDERS.
LET'S GO.
WE'RE GOING TO PICK UP YOUR PROSPECTS FORM, AREN'T WE?
ちゅ
KISS
THIS IS MY FUTURE PROSPECTS FORM.
MAKE SURE YOU SUBMIT IT,
UZU-CHAN.


HEEEY!
ばたばた TAP TAP
ばたばた TAP TAP
WE FORGOT OUR BAGS, TOO!
WE JUST REALIZED WE WERE EMPTY-HANDED!
HM? WERE YOU ALWAYS THAT COLOR, MR. VICE PRINCIPAL?
YOU GUYS...
すたっ THUD
HUH?
IS YOUR ANKLE OKAY NOW?
HM? ER...
へいき、 JUST FINE
ごそごそ RSTL RSTL
AH...
THERE WAS A PEBBLE IN MY SOCK.
THERE'S THE PROBLEM.
あるある！ IT HAPPENS!
IS THAT ALL?
IT HAPPENS!
SHEESH...
WELL, THEN.
TRY NOT TO BE TARDY.
GRANDMA, CAN YOU GRAB MY BAG?
'KAAAY!
HEY, MIDORIKO...
天野酒
SO? ANY PROGRESS?
MMM... A LITTLE.
WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT?

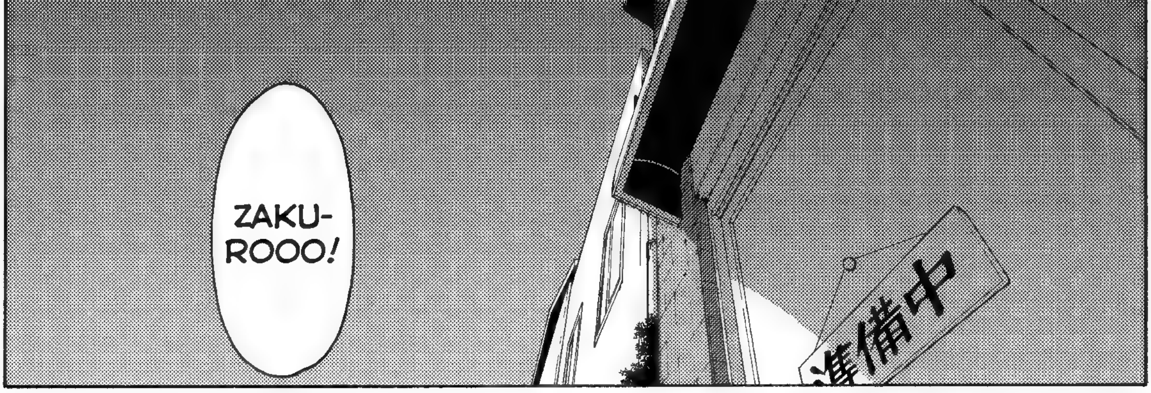

MMM…
LIFE COUNSELING!
THAT'S ALL?
WELL, KEEP IT UP.
AH, IT'S HIME-CHAN!
MORNING, EVERYONE!
HIMEEE! YOU'RE ON MORNING DUTY TODAY!
SHOULDN'T YOU HURRY?

51st NIGHT TO EACH THEIR OWN (PART ONE) END

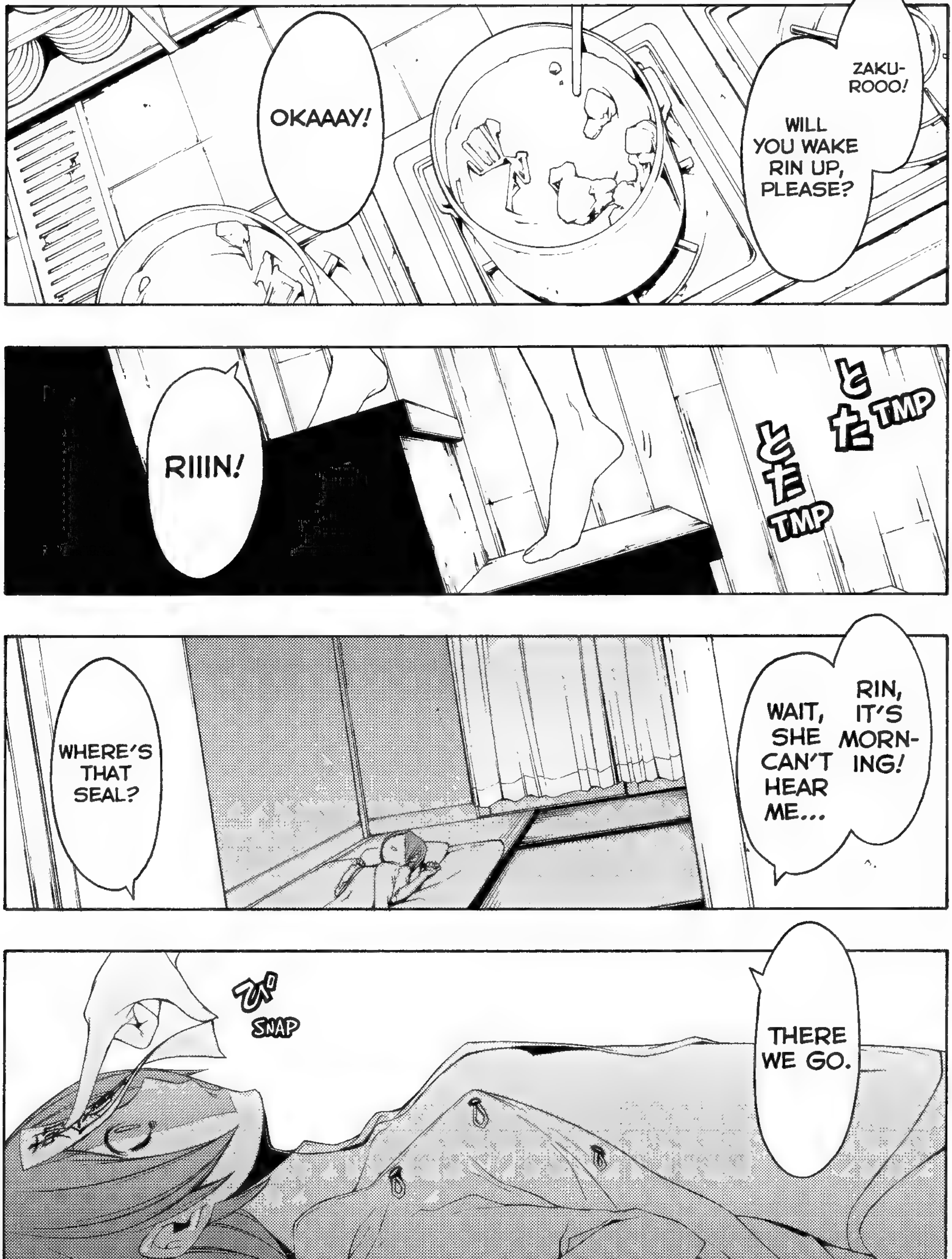


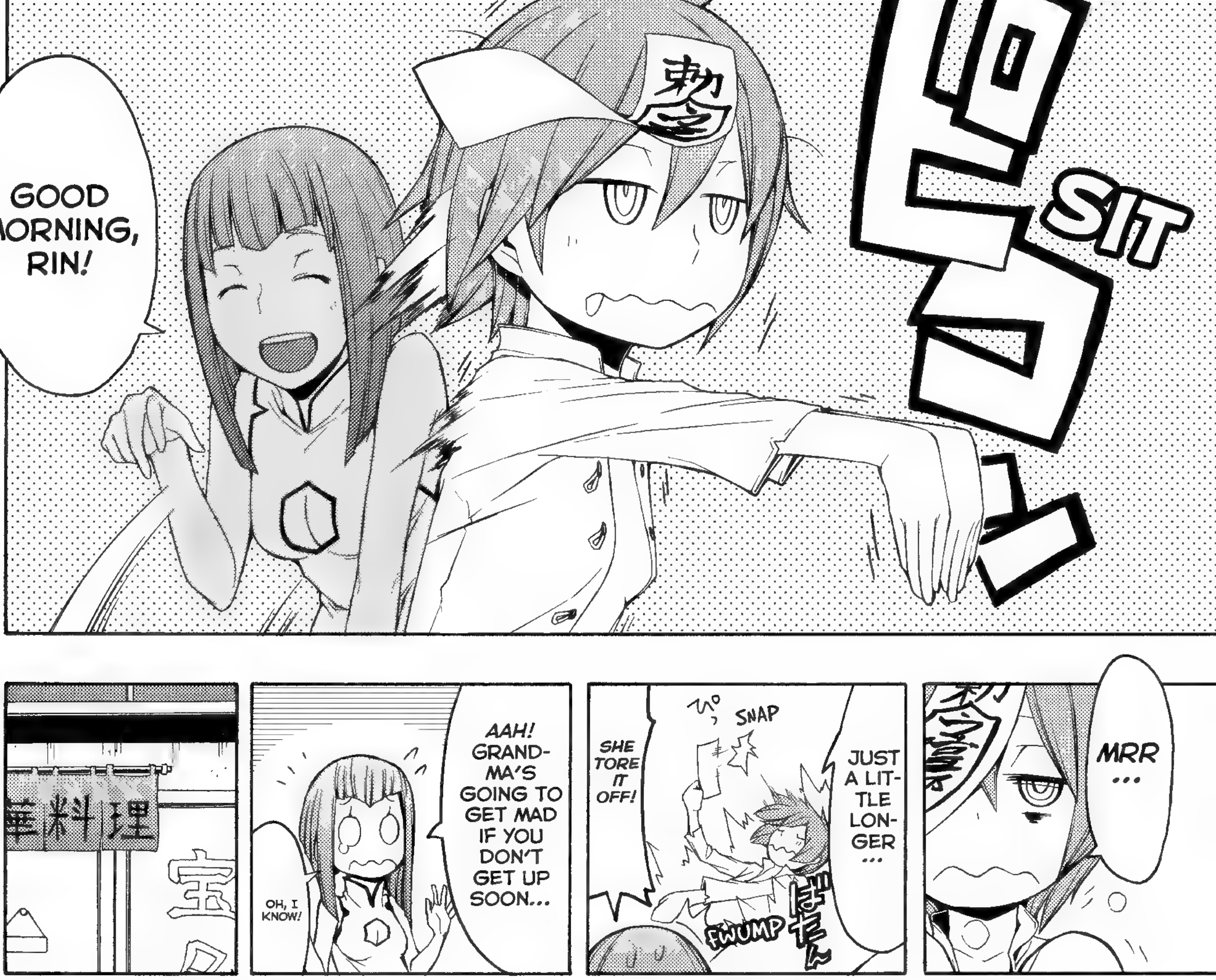
YOZAKURA
QUARTET 10

MIZUKI
MIDORIKO
SAWAKI

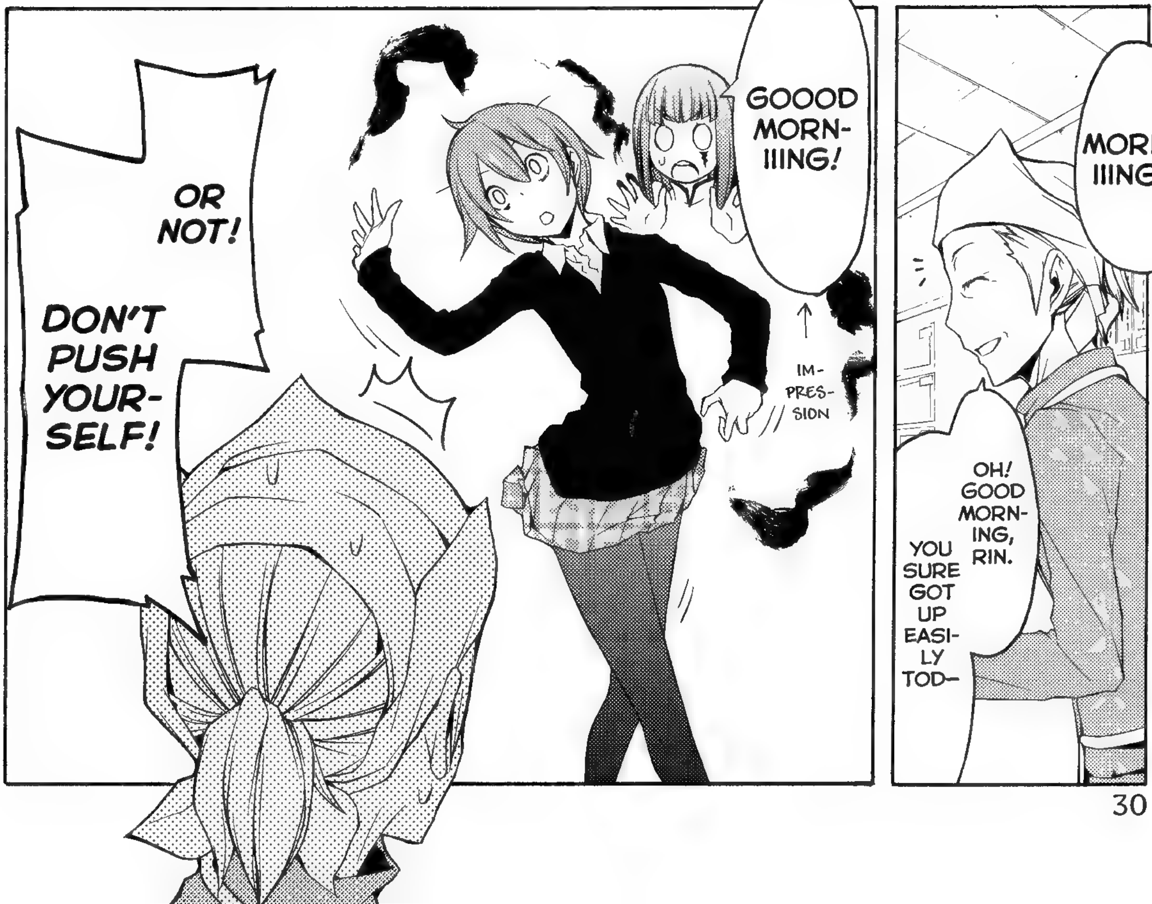

準備中
ZAKU-ROOO!

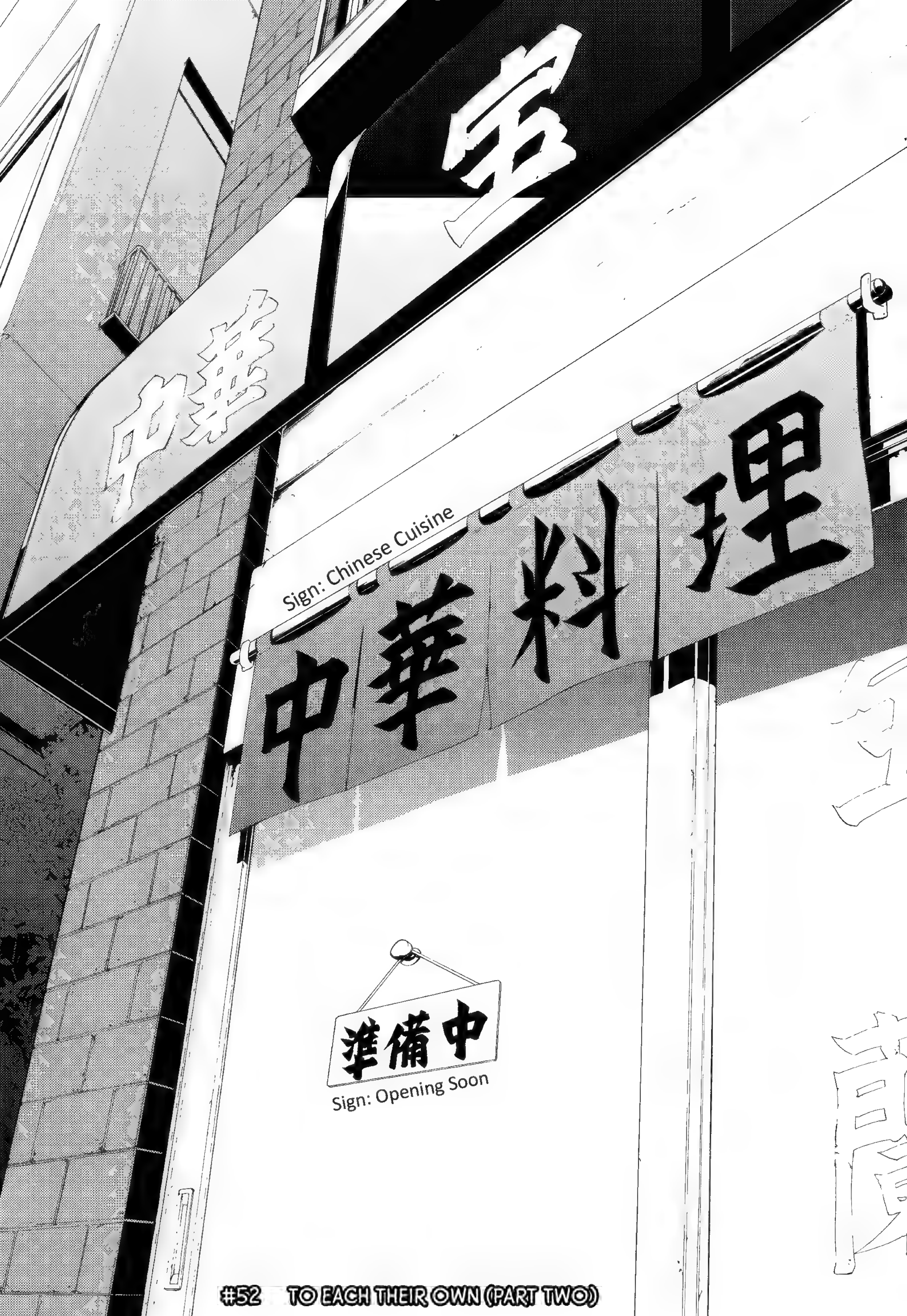
Sign: Opening Soon


ZAKU-ROOO!
WILL YOU WAKE RIN UP, PLEASE?
OKAAAY!
とた TMP
とた TMP
RIIIN!
RIN, IT'S MORNING!
WAIT, SHE CAN'T HEAR ME...
WHERE'S THAT SEAL?
THERE WE GO.
ぴ SNAP

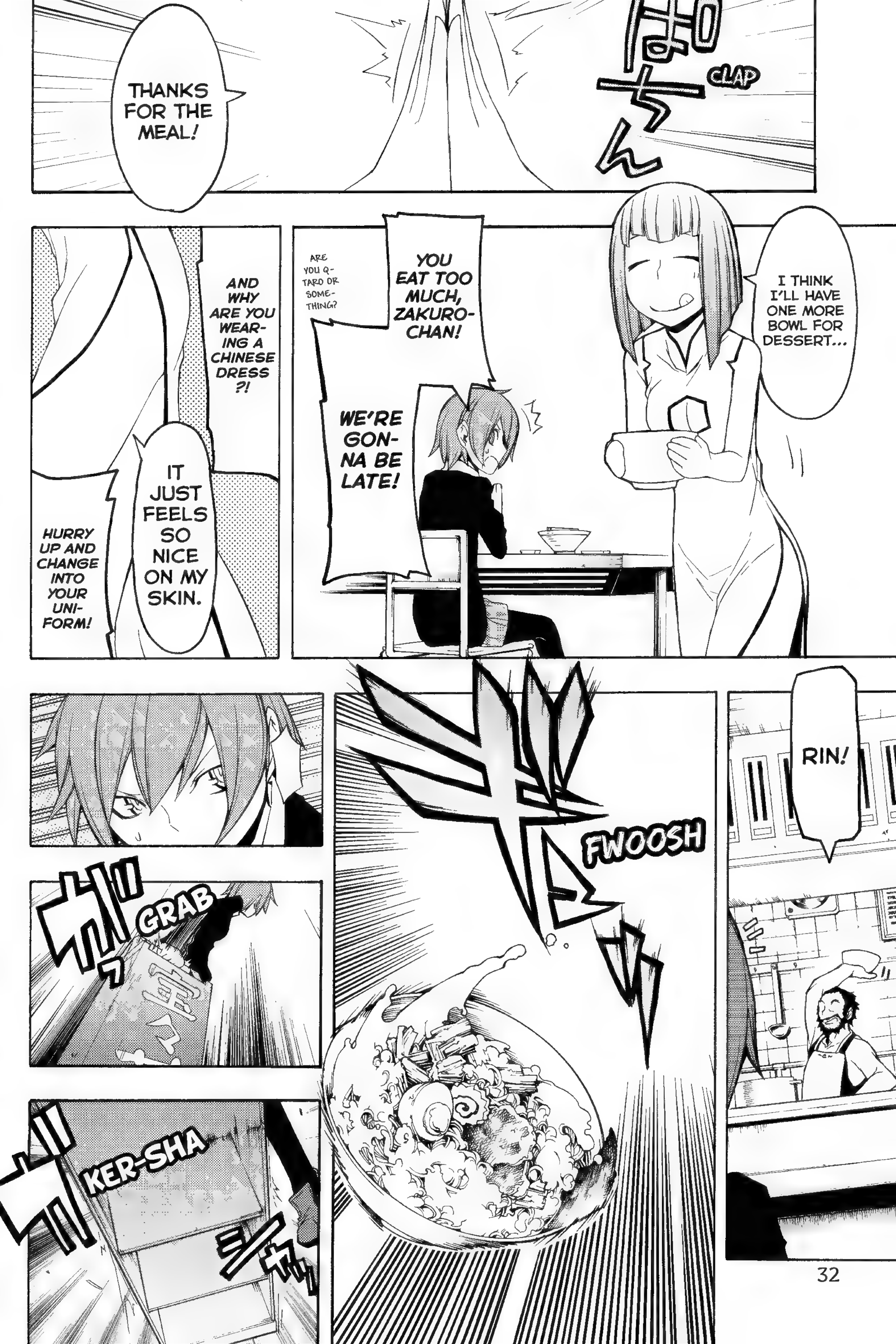

SIT
GOOD MORNING, RIN!
MRR...
JUST A LITTLE LONGER...
ぴっ
SNAP
SHE TORE IT OFF!
ばたん
FWUMP
AAH! GRANDMA'S GOING TO GET MAD IF YOU DON'T GET UP SOON...
OH, I KNOW!

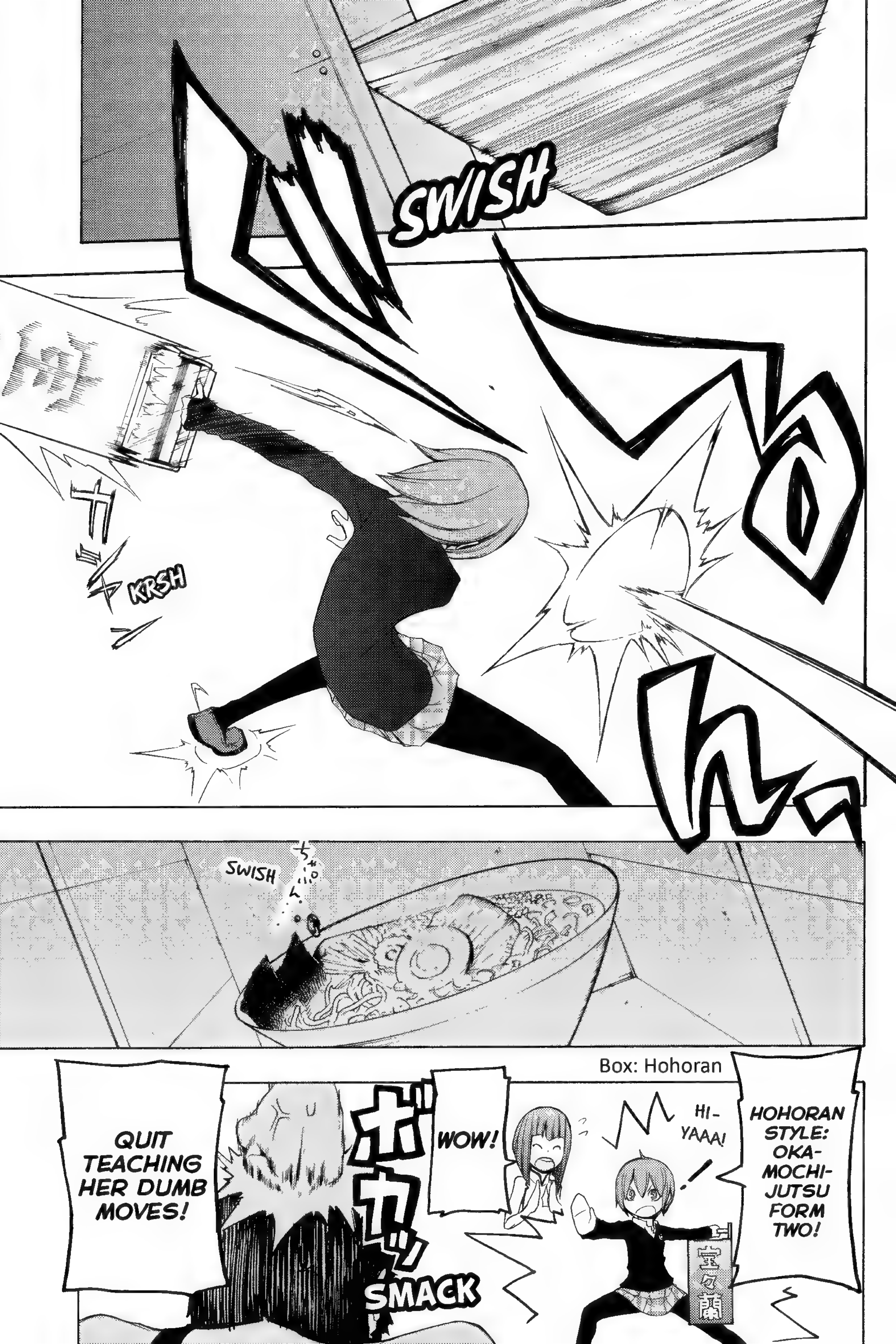
Sign: Chinese Cuisine

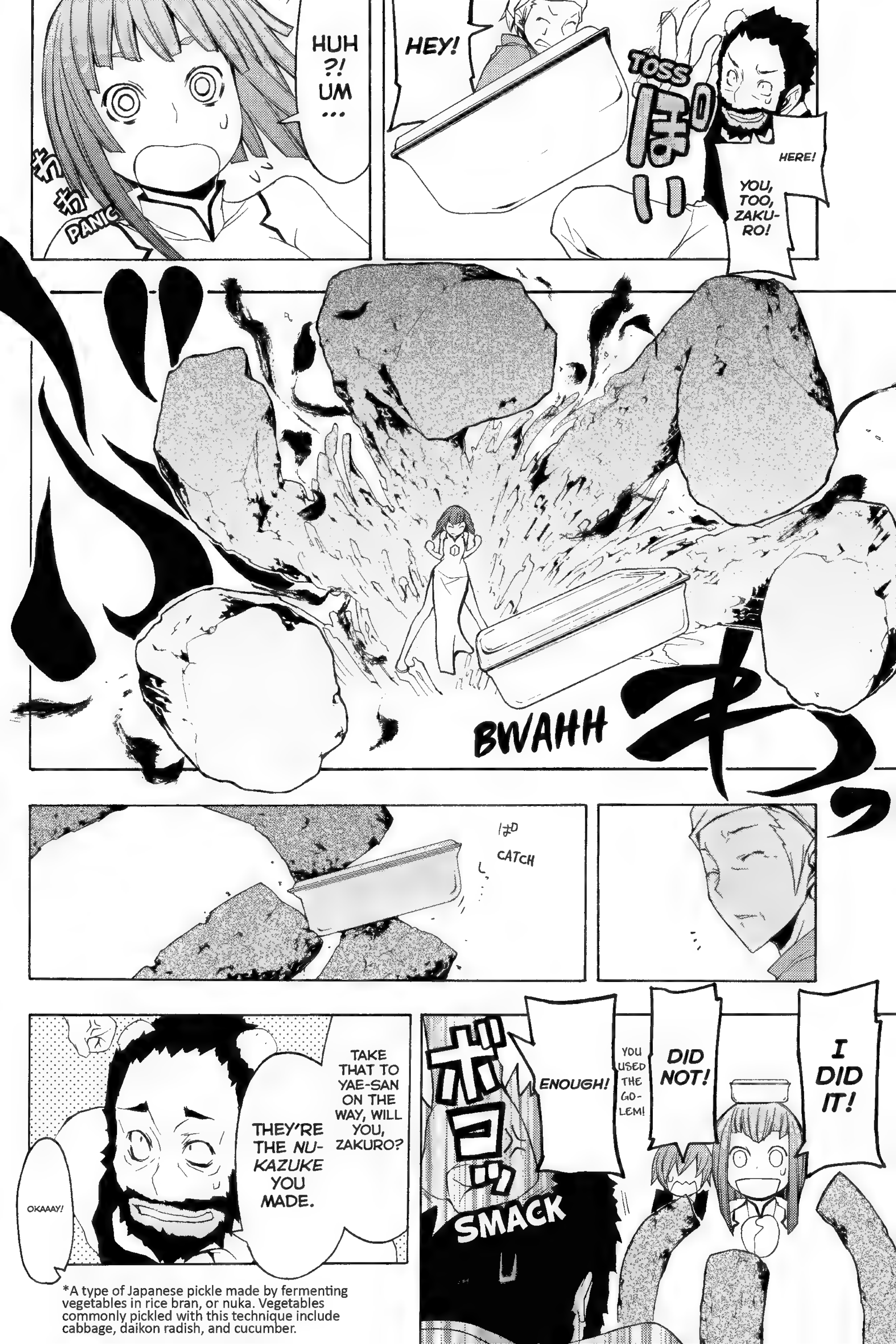

MORNIIING!
OH! GOOD MORNING, RIN.
YOU SURE GOT UP EASILY TOD—
GOOOD MORNIIING!
IMPRESSION
OR NOT!
DON'T PUSH YOURSELF!


宝
中華
中華料理
Sign: Chinese Cuisine
準備中
Sign: Opening Soon

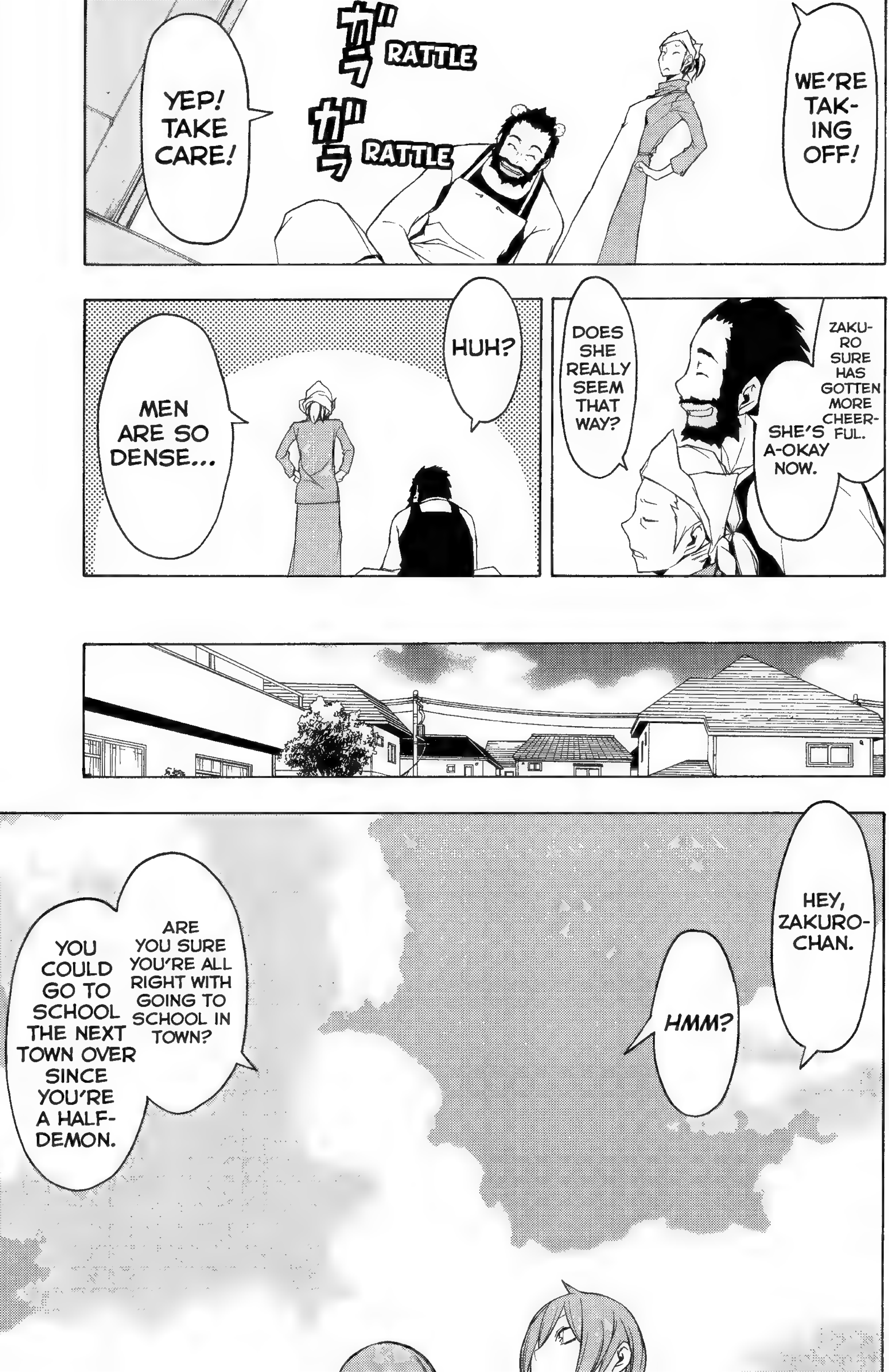
#52 TO EACH THEIR OWN (PART TWO)

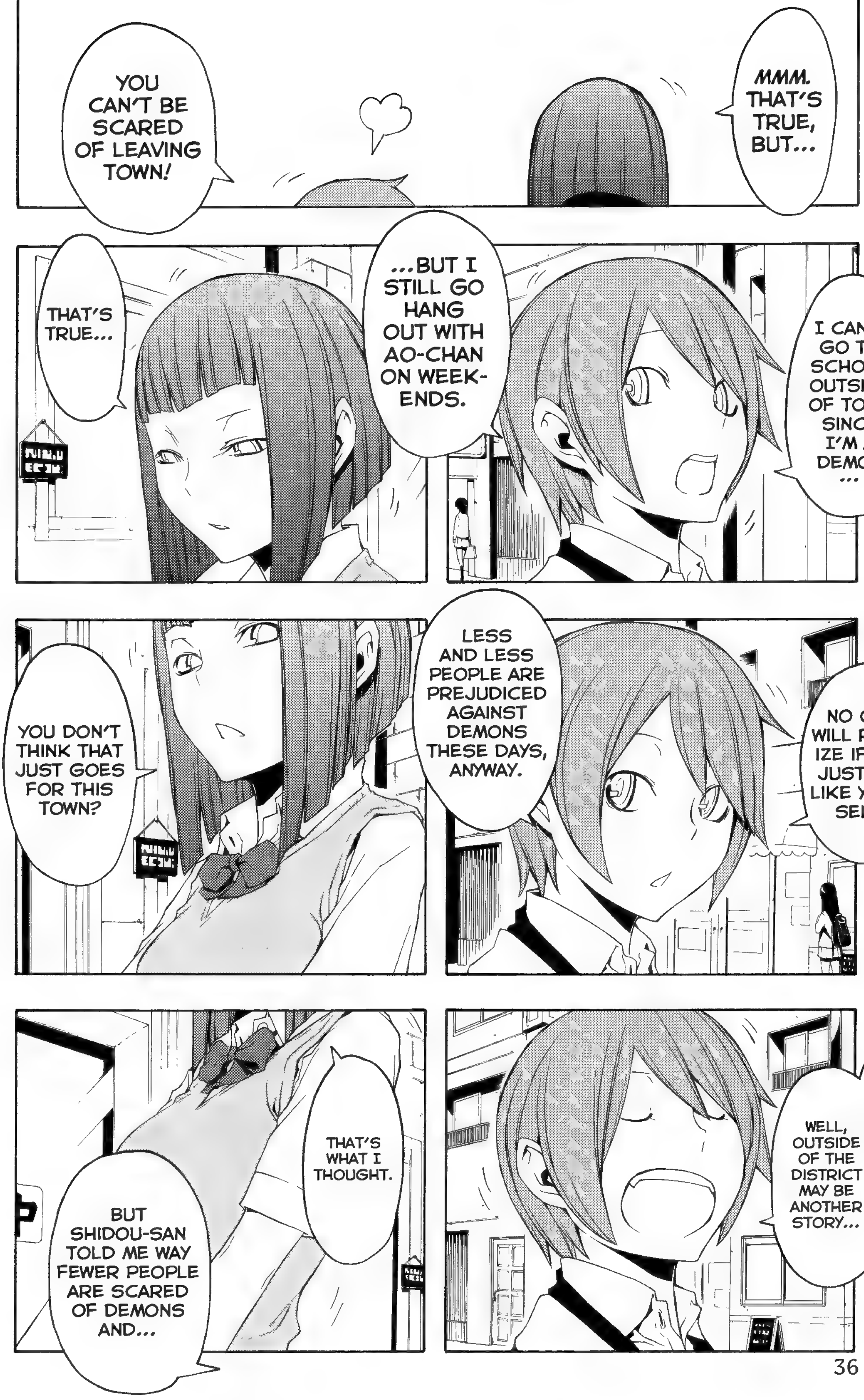

ぱちん
CLAP
THANKS FOR THE MEAL!
I THINK I'LL HAVE ONE MORE BOWL FOR DESSERT...
YOU EAT TOO MUCH, ZAKURO-CHAN!
ARE YOU Q-TARO OR SOMETHING?
WE'RE GONNA BE LATE!
AND WHY ARE YOU WEARING A CHINESE DRESS?!
IT JUST FEELS SO NICE ON MY SKIN.
HURRY UP AND CHANGE INTO YOUR UNIFORM!
RIN!
FWOOSH
GRAB
KER-SHA

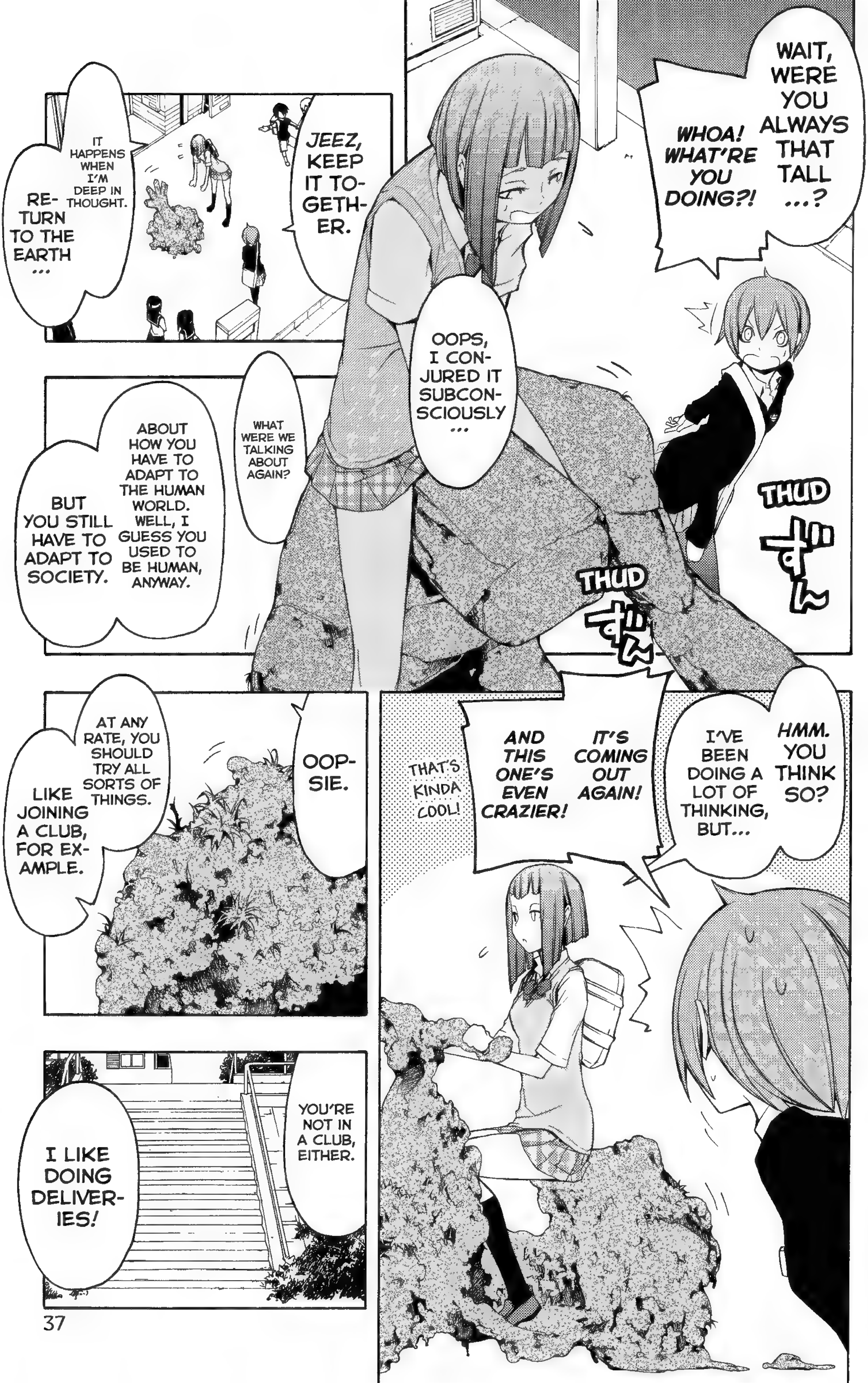

SWISH
ガシャン
KRSH
SWISH
ちゃぽん
Box: Hohoran
HOHORAN STYLE: OKA-MOCHI-JUTSU FORM TWO!
HI-YAAA!
宝々蘭
WOW!
ボカッ
SMACK
QUIT TEACHING HER DUMB MOVES!

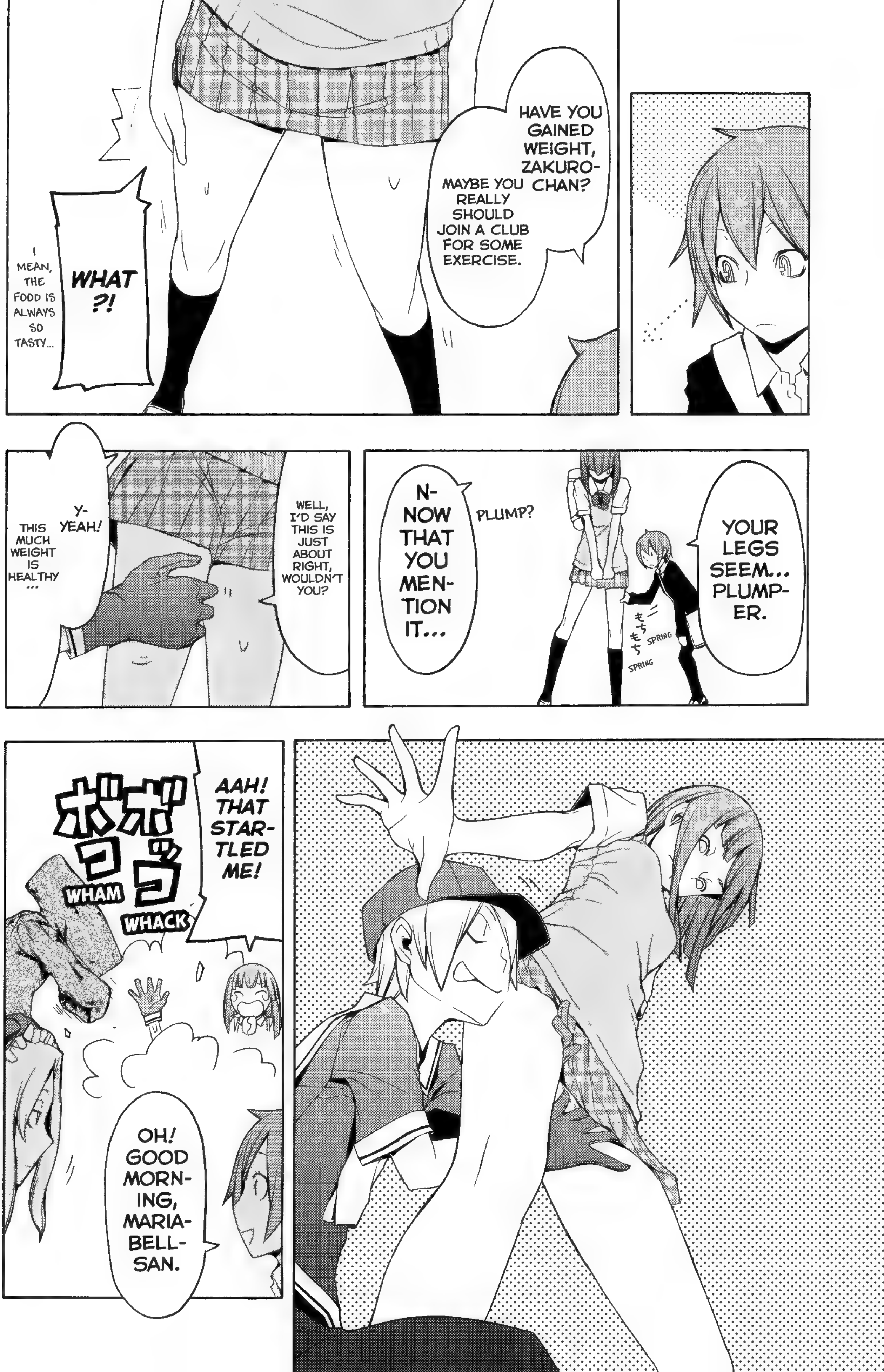

TOSS
ぽい
HERE!
YOU, TOO, ZAKURO!
HEY!
HUH?! UM...
わわ
PANIC
BWAHH
わっ
CATCH
I DID IT!
DID NOT!
YOU USED THE GOLEM!
ENOUGH!
ボコッ
SMACK
TAKE THAT TO YAE-SAN ON THE WAY, WILL YOU, ZAKURO?
THEY'RE THE *NUKAZUKE* YOU MADE.
OKAAAY!

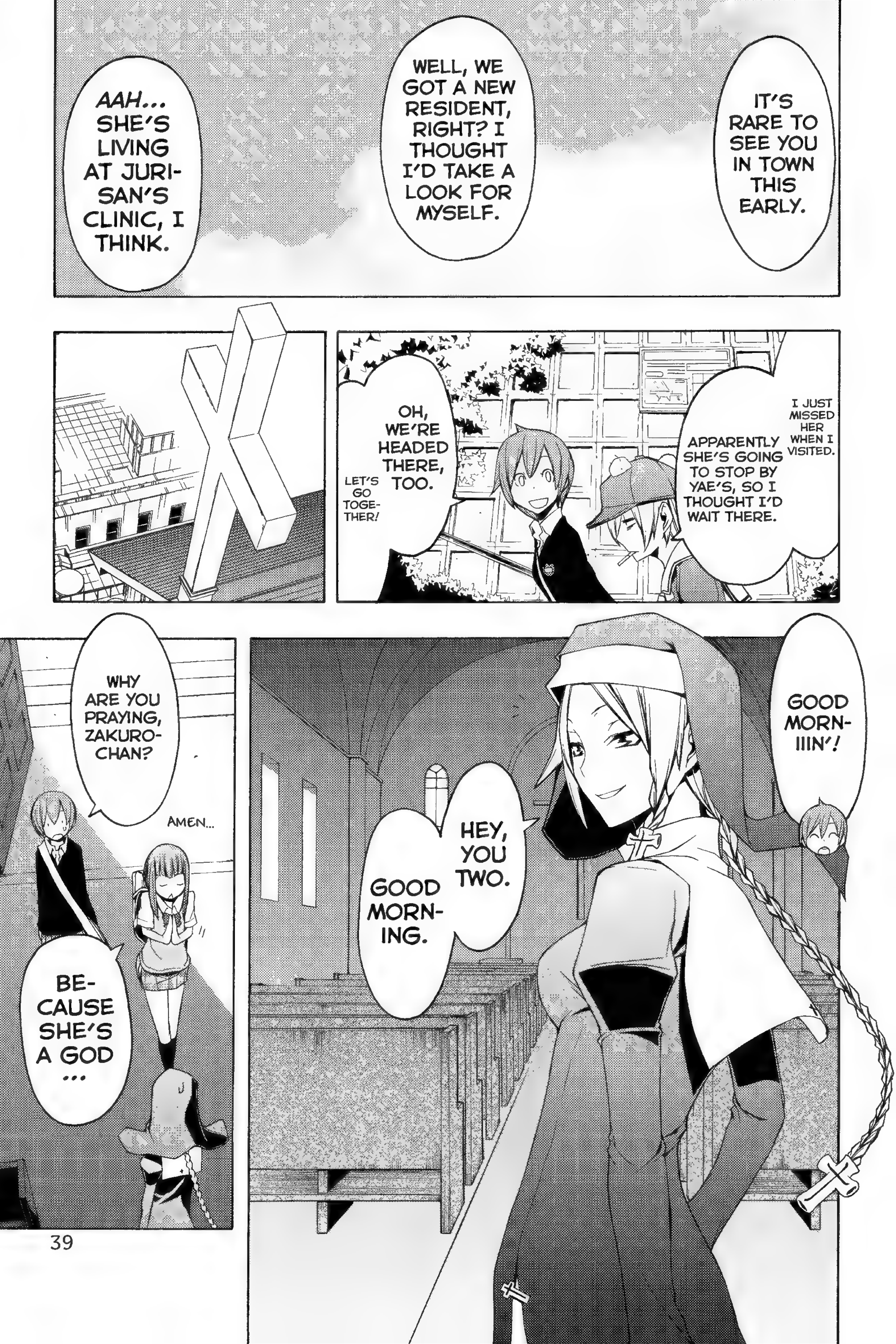
*A type of Japanese pickle made by fermenting vegetables in rice bran, or nuka. Vegetables commonly pickled with this technique include cabbage, daikon radish, and cucumber.

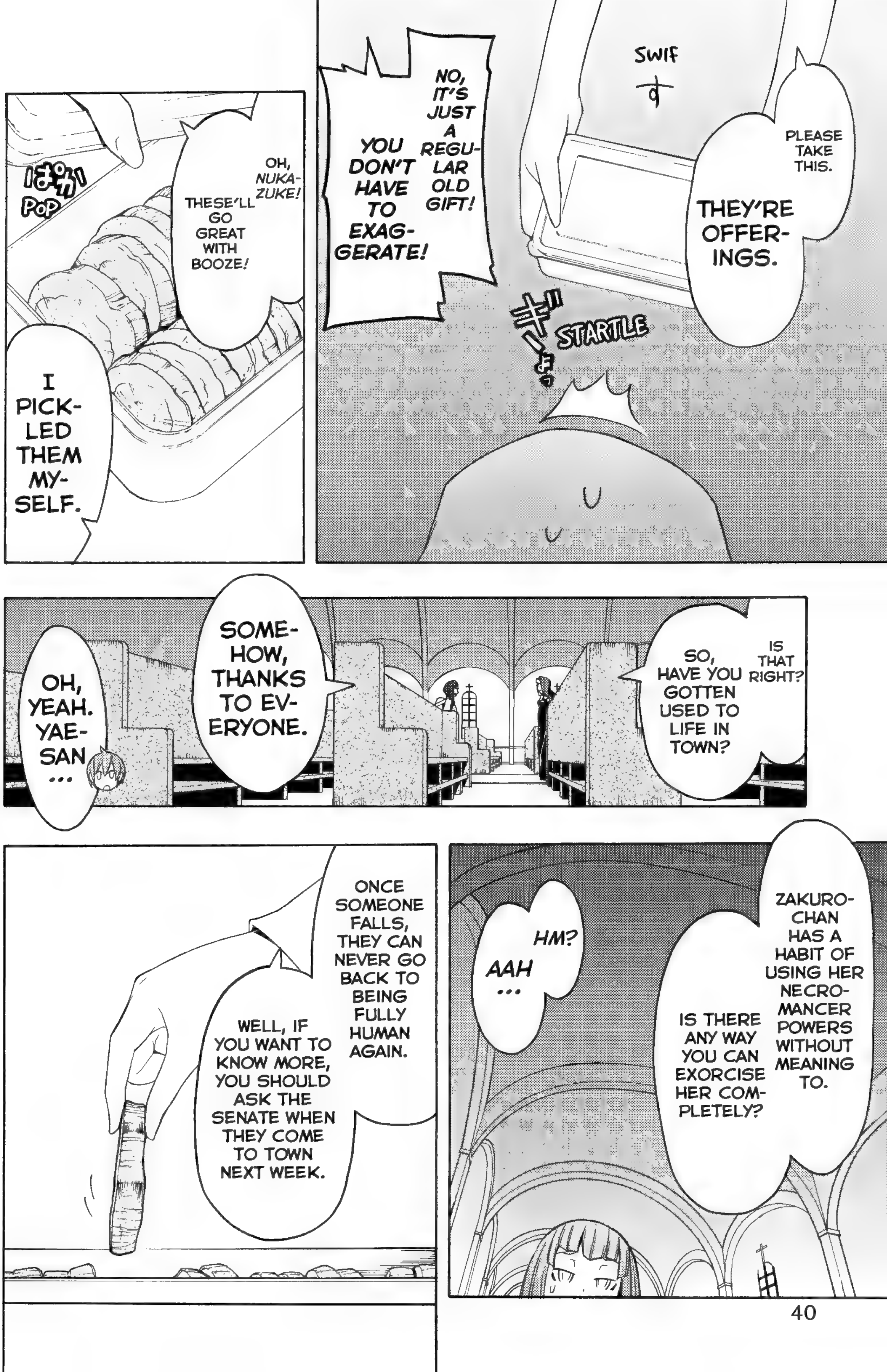

WE'RE TAKING OFF!
ガラ RATTLE
ガラ RATTLE
YEP! TAKE CARE!
ZAKURO SURE HAS GOTTEN MORE CHEERFUL.
SHE'S A-OKAY NOW.
DOES SHE REALLY SEEM THAT WAY?
HUH?
MEN ARE SO DENSE...
HEY, ZAKURO-CHAN.
HMM?
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT WITH GOING TO SCHOOL IN TOWN?
YOU COULD GO TO SCHOOL THE NEXT TOWN OVER SINCE YOU'RE A HALF-DEMON.

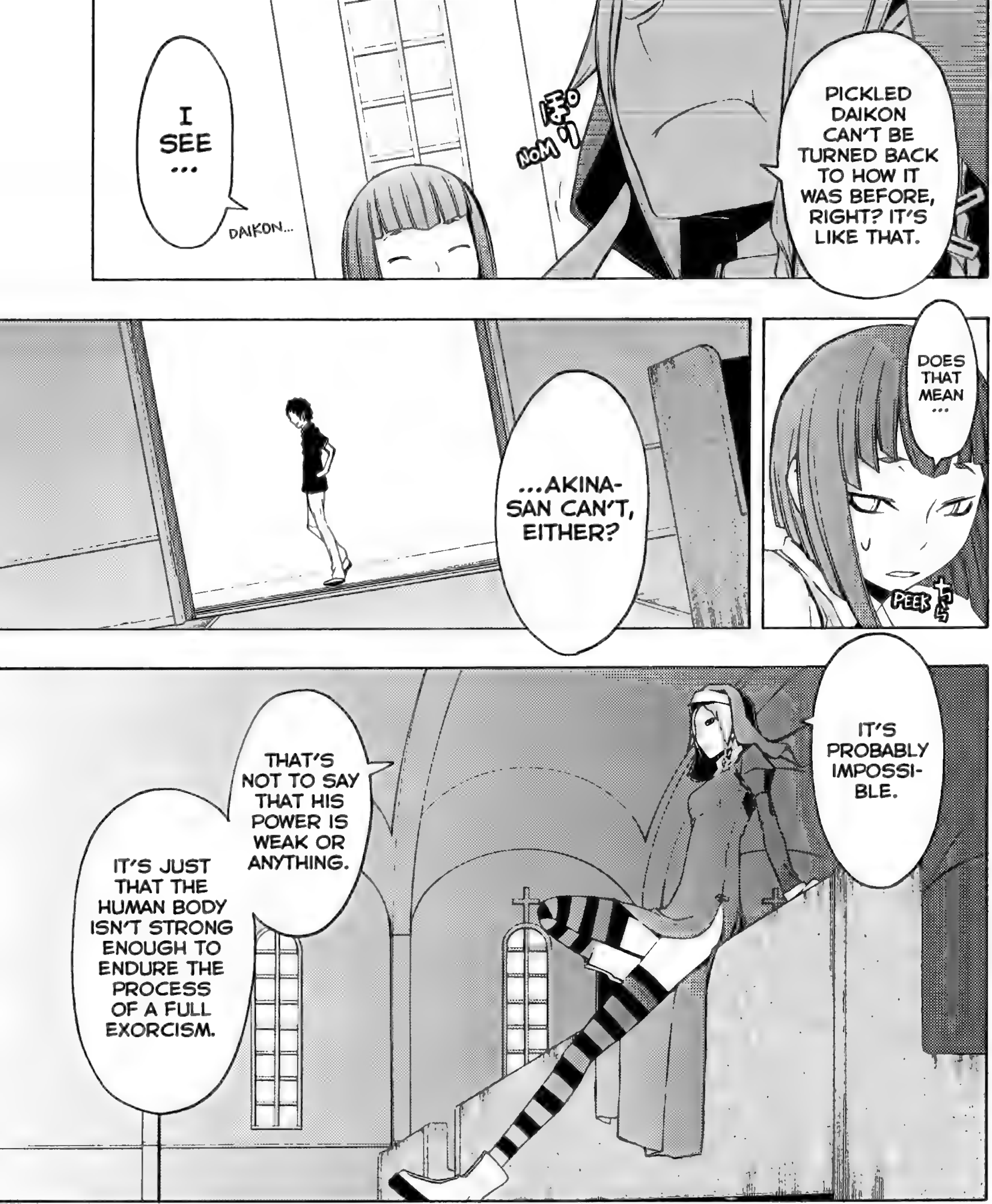

MMM. THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
YOU CAN'T BE SCARED OF LEAVING TOWN!
I CAN'T GO TO SCHOOL OUTSIDE OF TOWN SINCE I'M A DEMON...
...BUT I STILL GO HANG OUT WITH AO-CHAN ON WEEKENDS.
THAT'S TRUE...
NO ONE WILL REALIZE IF YOU JUST ACT LIKE YOURSELF!
LESS AND LESS PEOPLE ARE PREJUDICED AGAINST DEMONS THESE DAYS, ANYWAY.
YOU DON'T THINK THAT JUST GOES FOR THIS TOWN?
OF COURSE NOT!
WELL, OUTSIDE OF THE DISTRICT MAY BE ANOTHER STORY...
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
BUT SHIDOU-SAN TOLD ME WAY FEWER PEOPLE ARE SCARED OF DEMONS AND...


WAIT, WERE YOU ALWAYS THAT TALL ...?
WHOA! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
OOPS, I CONJURED IT SUBCONSCIOUSLY ...
THUD ずん
THUD ずん
JEEZ, KEEP IT TOGETHER.
RETURN TO THE EARTH ...
IT HAPPENS WHEN I'M DEEP IN THOUGHT.
WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT AGAIN?
ABOUT HOW YOU HAVE TO ADAPT TO THE HUMAN WORLD. WELL, I GUESS YOU USED TO BE HUMAN, ANYWAY.
BUT YOU STILL HAVE TO ADAPT TO SOCIETY.
HMM. YOU THINK SO?
I'VE BEEN DOING A LOT OF THINKING, BUT...
IT'S COMING OUT AGAIN!
AND THIS ONE'S EVEN CRAZIER!
THAT'S KINDA COOL!
OOPSIE.
AT ANY RATE, YOU SHOULD TRY ALL SORTS OF THINGS.
LIKE JOINING A CLUB, FOR EXAMPLE.
YOU'RE NOT IN A CLUB, EITHER.
I LIKE DOING DELIVERIES!

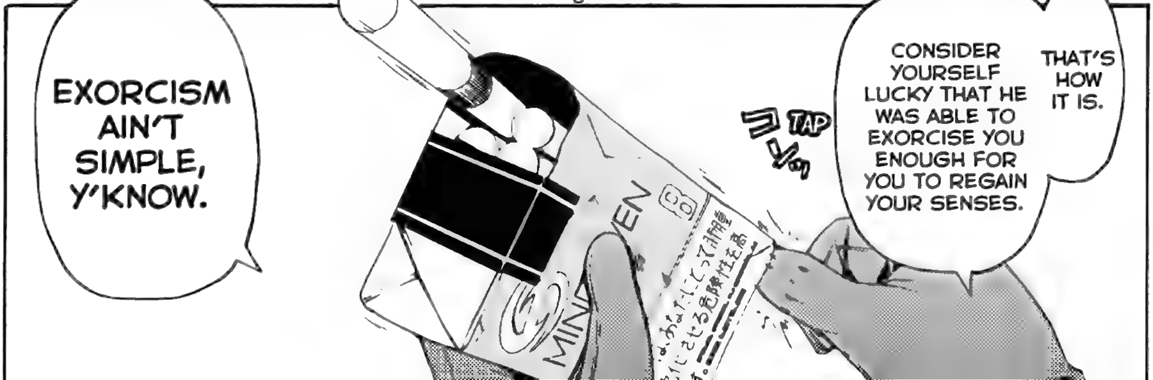

HAVE YOU GAINED WEIGHT, ZAKURO-CHAN?
MAYBE YOU REALLY SHOULD JOIN A CLUB FOR SOME EXERCISE.
WHAT?!
I MEAN, THE FOOD IS ALWAYS SO TASTY...
YOUR LEGS SEEM... PLUMPER.
もち もち
SPRING SPRING
PLUMP?
N-NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
WELL, I'D SAY THIS IS JUST ABOUT RIGHT, WOULDN'T YOU?
Y-YEAH!
THIS MUCH WEIGHT IS HEALTHY...
AAH! THAT STARTLED ME!
ボゴッ ボゴッ
WHAM
WHACK
OH! GOOD MORNING, MARIA-BELL-SAN.

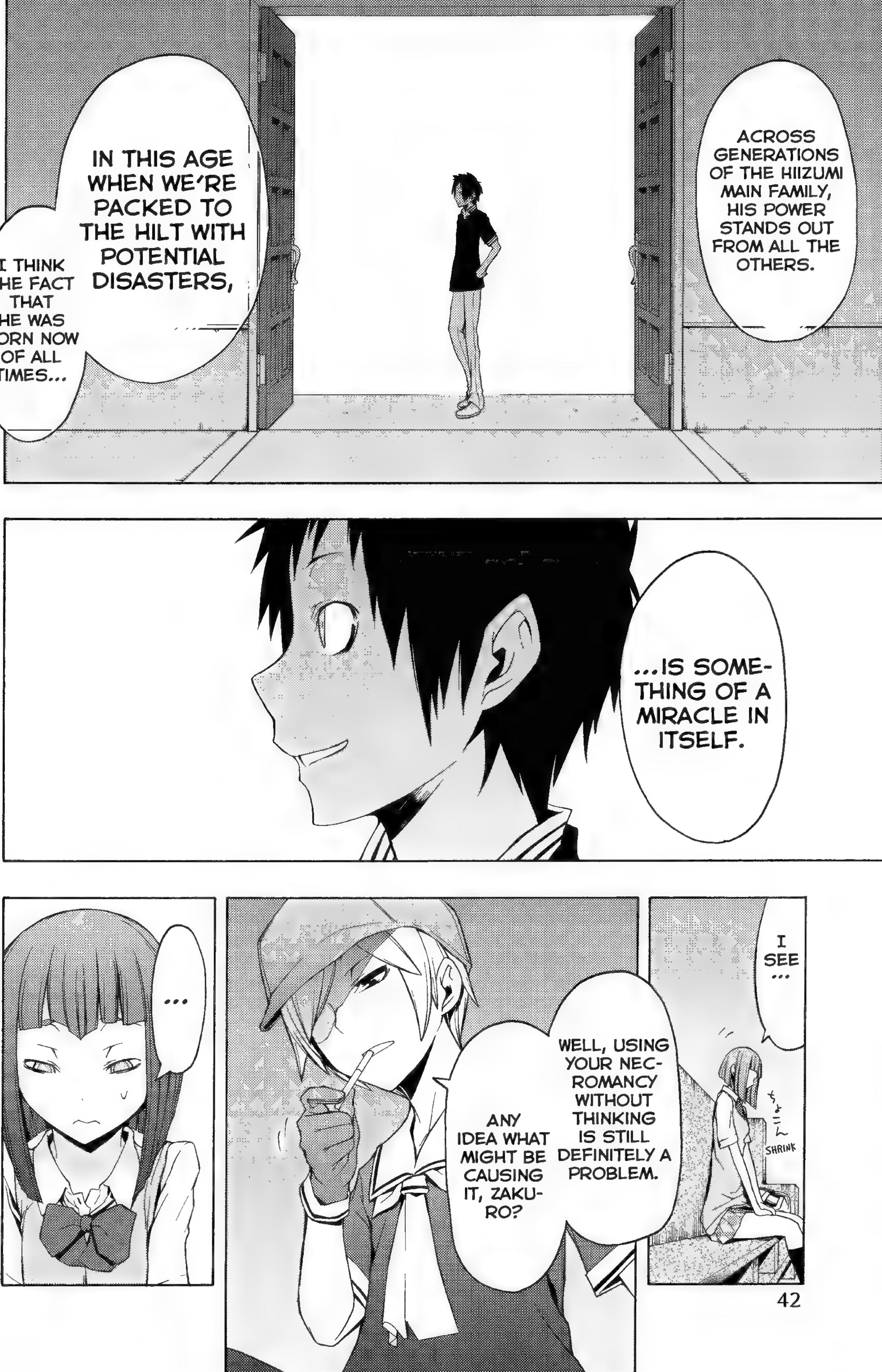

IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU IN TOWN THIS EARLY.
WELL, WE GOT A NEW RESIDENT, RIGHT? I THOUGHT I'D TAKE A LOOK FOR MYSELF.
AAH... SHE'S LIVING AT JURI-SAN'S CLINIC, I THINK.
I JUST MISSED HER WHEN I VISITED.
APPARENTLY SHE'S GOING TO STOP BY YAE'S, SO I THOUGHT I'D WAIT THERE.
OH, WE'RE HEADED THERE, TOO.
LET'S GO TOGETHER!
GOOD MORN-IIIN'!
HEY, YOU TWO.
GOOD MORNING.
WHY ARE YOU PRAYING, ZAKURO-CHAN?
AMEN...
BECAUSE SHE'S A GOD...

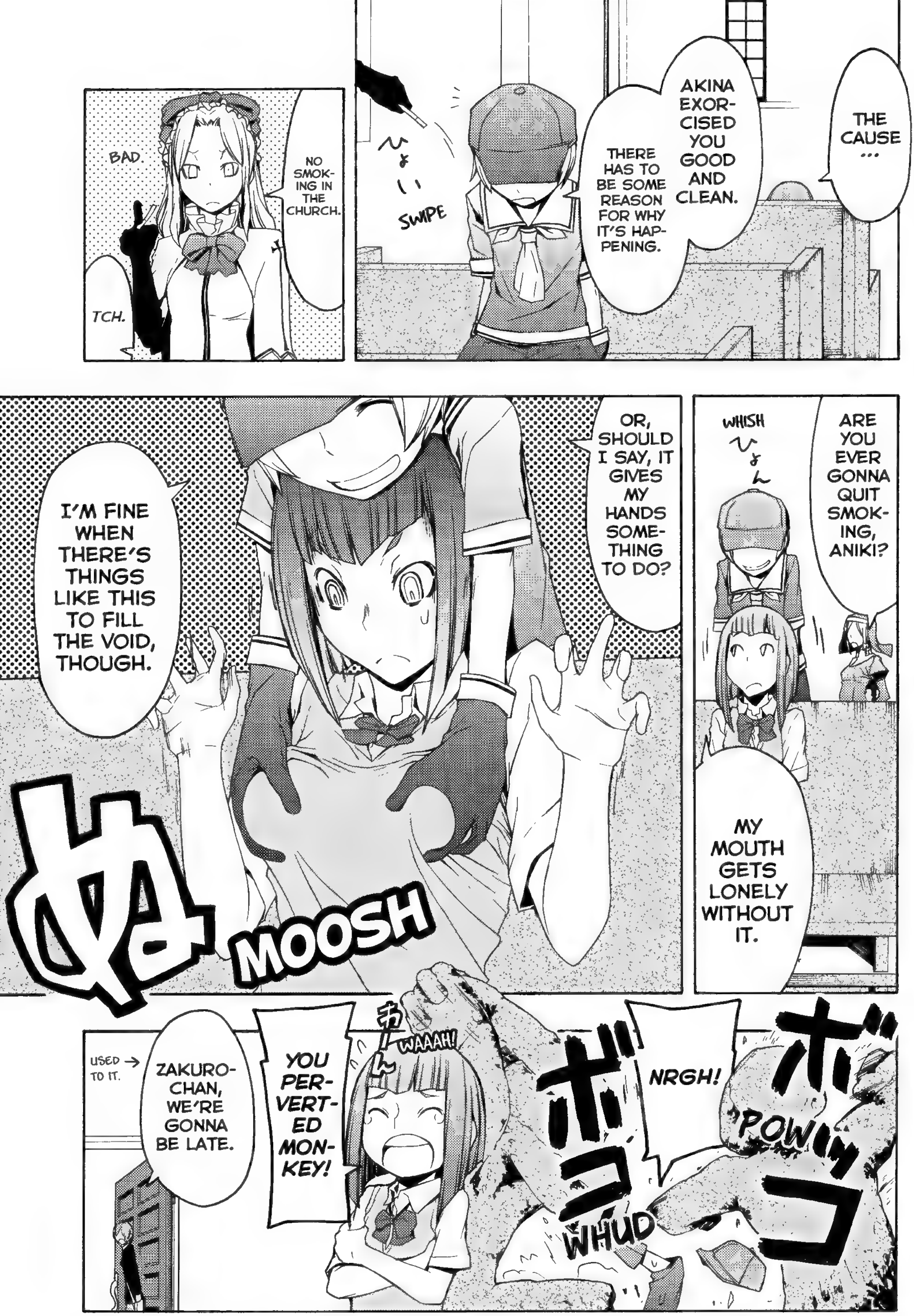

SWIF
す
PLEASE TAKE THIS.
THEY'RE OFFERINGS.
ギョっ
STARTLE
NO, IT'S JUST A REGULAR OLD GIFT!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXAGGERATE!
OH, NUKAZUKE!
THESE'LL GO GREAT WITH BOOZE!
ぱかッ
POP
I PICKLED THEM MYSELF.
SO, HAVE YOU GOTTEN USED TO LIFE IN TOWN?
IS THAT RIGHT?
SOMEHOW, THANKS TO EVERYONE.
OH, YEAH. YAE-SAN...
ZAKURO-CHAN HAS A HABIT OF USING HER NECROMANCER POWERS WITHOUT MEANING TO.
IS THERE ANY WAY YOU CAN EXORCISE HER COMPLETELY?
HM?
AAH...
ONCE SOMEONE FALLS, THEY CAN NEVER GO BACK TO BEING FULLY HUMAN AGAIN.
WELL, IF YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE, YOU SHOULD ASK THE SENATE WHEN THEY COME TO TOWN NEXT WEEK.

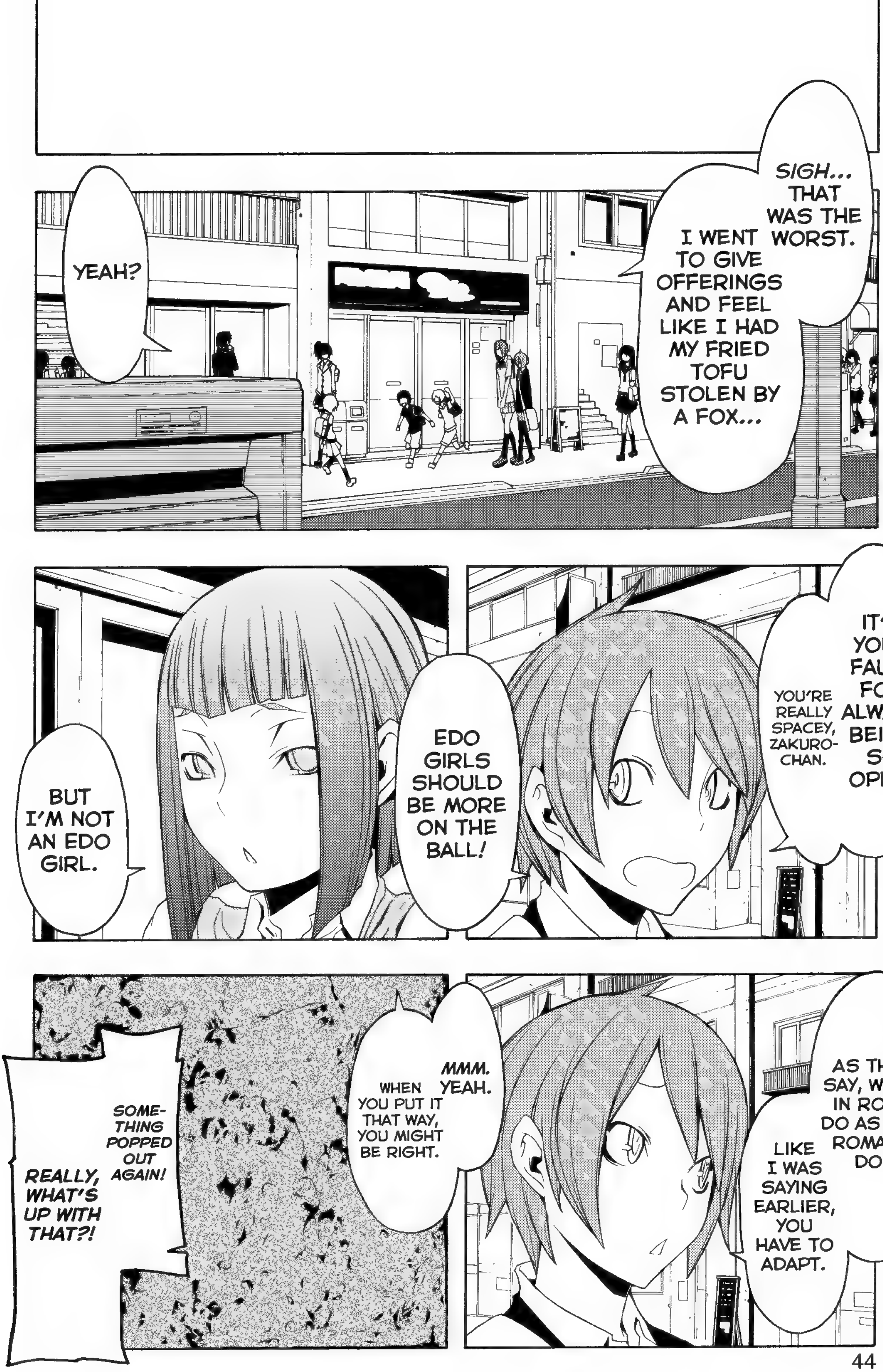

PICKLED DAIKON CAN'T BE TURNED BACK TO HOW IT WAS BEFORE, RIGHT? IT'S LIKE THAT.
ぽり NOM
I SEE...
DAIKON...
DOES THAT MEAN...
ちら PEEK
...AKINA-SAN CAN'T, EITHER?
IT'S PROBABLY IMPOSSIBLE.
THAT'S NOT TO SAY THAT HIS POWER IS WEAK OR ANYTHING.
IT'S JUST THAT THE HUMAN BODY ISN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO ENDURE THE PROCESS OF A FULL EXORCISM.

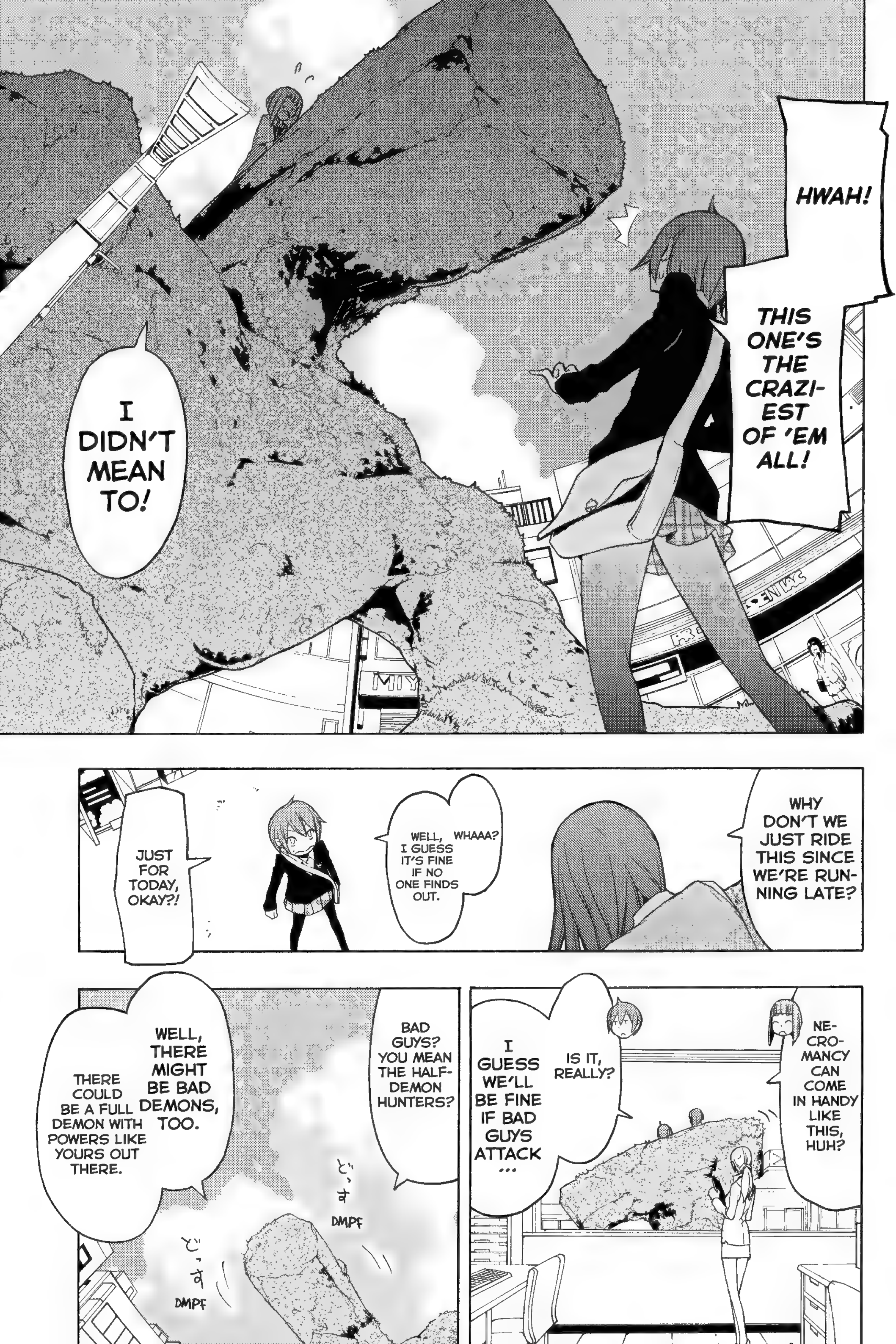
Box: Cigarettes are known to increase the risk of lung disease.

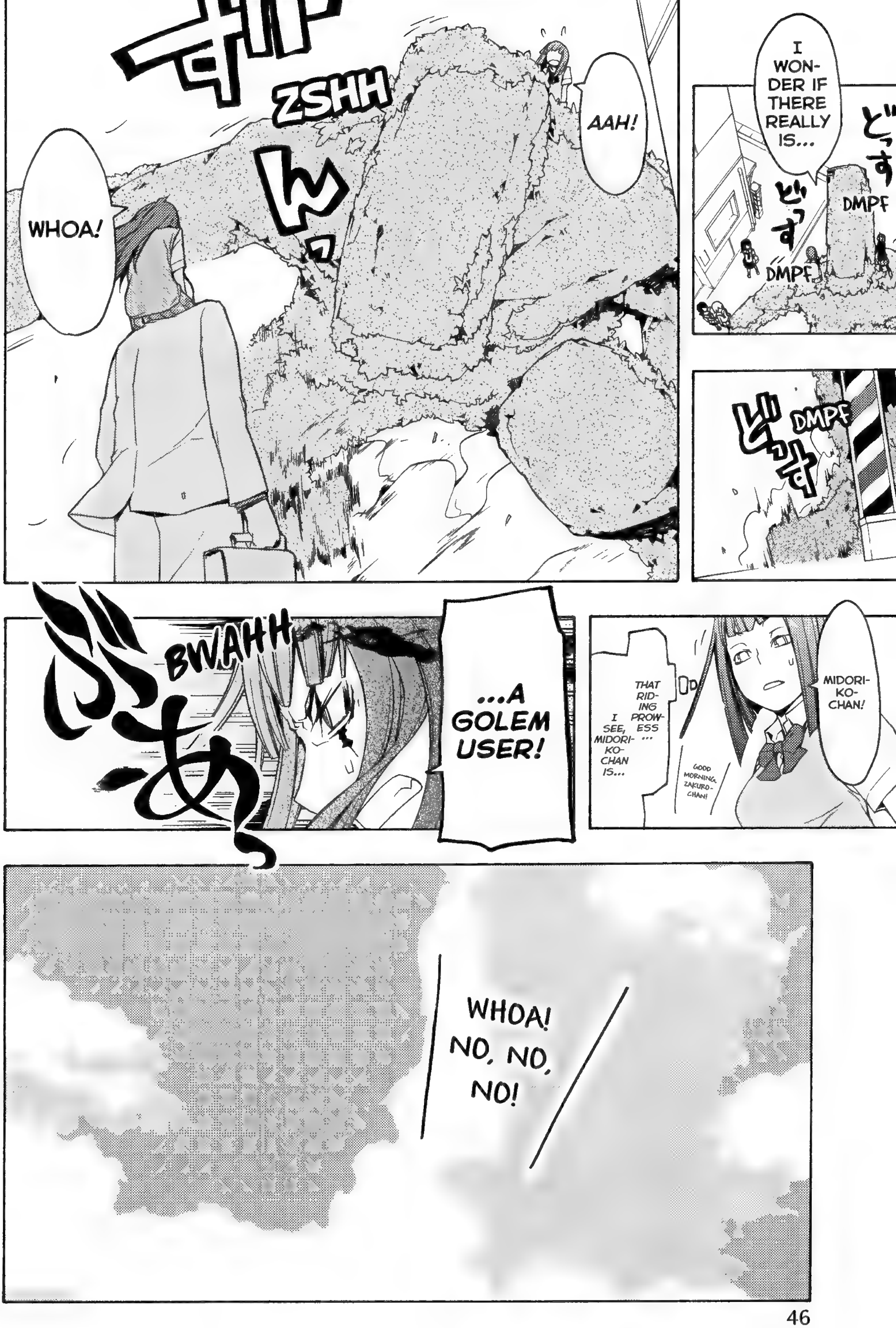

THAT'S HOW IT IS.
CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY THAT HE WAS ABLE TO EXORCISE YOU ENOUGH FOR YOU TO REGAIN YOUR SENSES.
コン TAP
EXORCISM AIN'T SIMPLE, Y'KNOW.
MIND
8

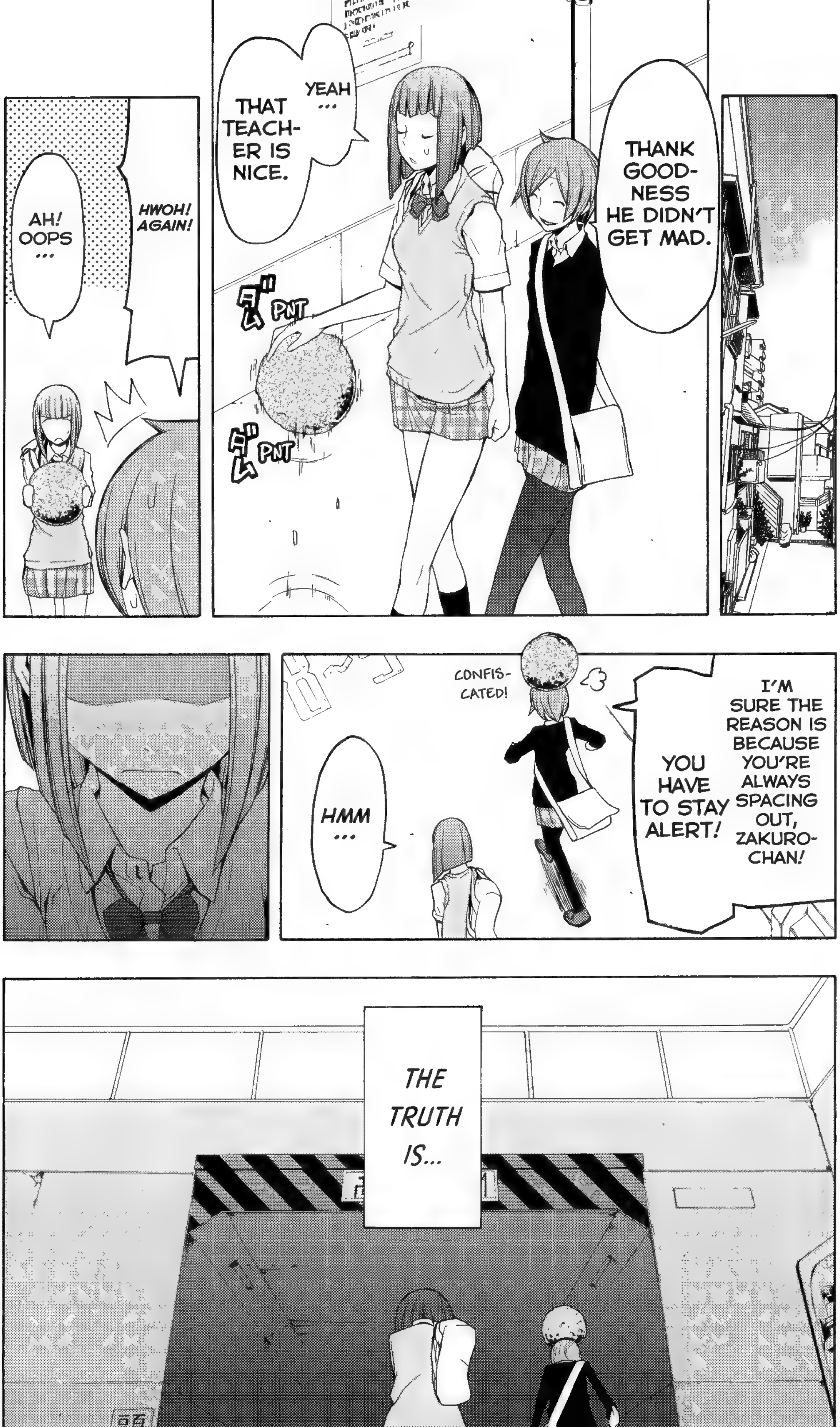

ACROSS GENERATIONS OF THE HIIZUMI MAIN FAMILY, HIS POWER STANDS OUT FROM ALL THE OTHERS.
IN THIS AGE WHEN WE'RE PACKED TO THE HILT WITH POTENTIAL DISASTERS,
I THINK THE FACT THAT HE WAS BORN NOW OF ALL TIMES...
...IS SOMETHING OF A MIRACLE IN ITSELF.
I SEE...
SHRINK
WELL, USING YOUR NECROMANCY WITHOUT THINKING IS STILL DEFINITELY A PROBLEM.
ANY IDEA WHAT MIGHT BE CAUSING IT, ZAKURO?
...

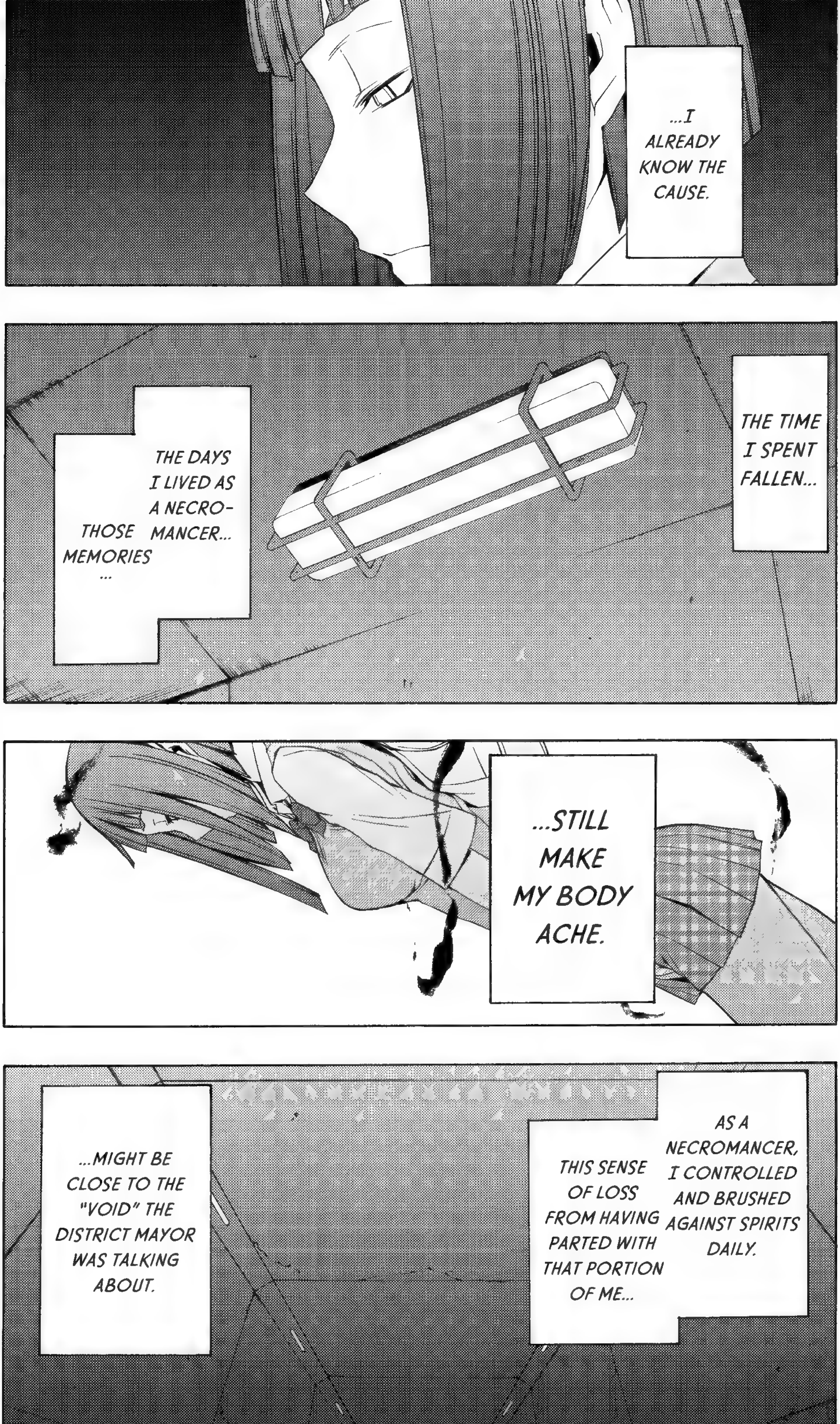

THE CAUSE …
AKINA EXORCISED YOU GOOD AND CLEAN.
THERE HAS TO BE SOME REASON FOR WHY IT'S HAPPENING.
ひょい
SWIPE
NO SMOKING IN THE CHURCH.
BAD.
TCH.
ARE YOU EVER GONNA QUIT SMOKING, ANIKI?
ひょん
WHISH
MY MOUTH GETS LONELY WITHOUT IT.
OR, SHOULD I SAY, IT GIVES MY HANDS SOMETHING TO DO?
I'M FINE WHEN THERE'S THINGS LIKE THIS TO FILL THE VOID, THOUGH.
ぬ
MOOSH
ボコ
POW
ボコ
WHUD
NRGH!
YOU PERVERTED MONKEY!
あーん
WAAAH!
ZAKURO-CHAN, WE'RE GONNA BE LATE.
USED TO IT. →

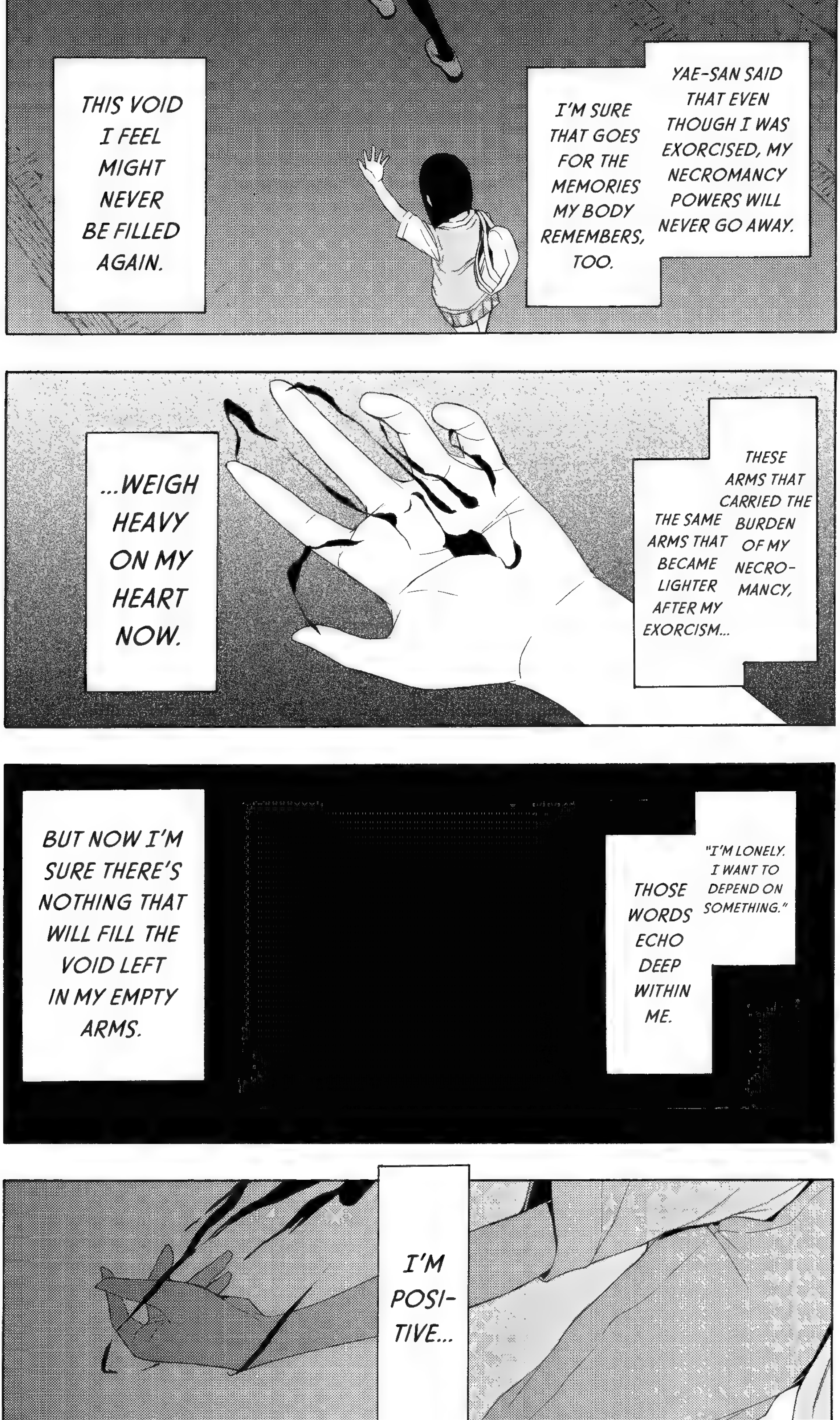

SIGH... THAT WAS THE WORST.
I WENT TO GIVE OFFERINGS AND FEEL LIKE I HAD MY FRIED TOFU STOLEN BY A FOX...
YEAH?
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR ALWAYS BEING SO OPEN.
YOU'RE REALLY SPACEY, ZAKURO-CHAN.
EDO GIRLS SHOULD BE MORE ON THE BALL!
BUT I'M NOT AN EDO GIRL.
AS THEY SAY, WHEN IN ROME, DO AS THE ROMANS DO.
LIKE I WAS SAYING EARLIER, YOU HAVE TO ADAPT.
MMM. YEAH.
WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY, YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT.
SOMETHING POPPED OUT AGAIN!
REALLY, WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?!

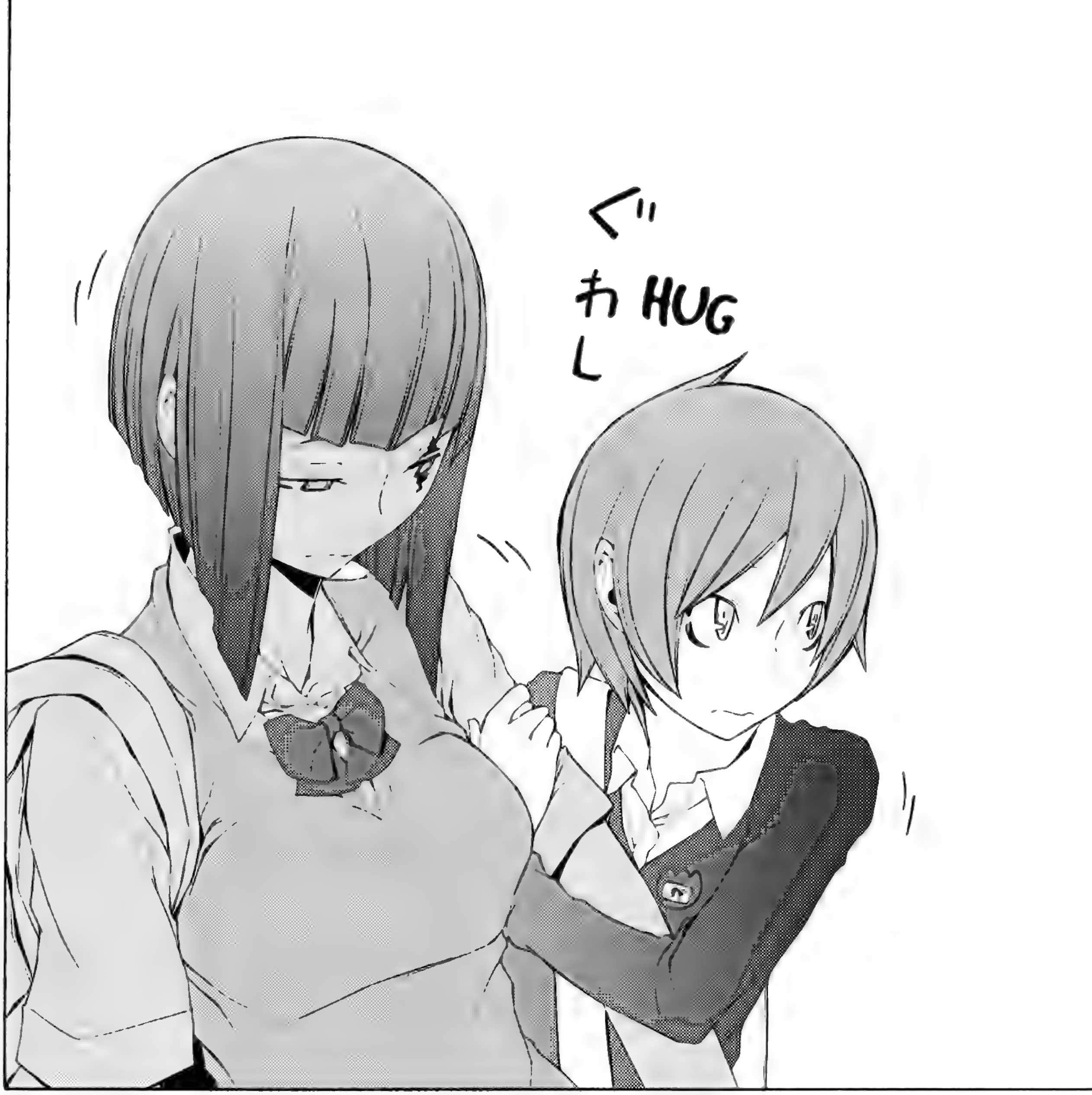

HWAH!
THIS ONE'S THE CRAZIEST OF 'EM ALL!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO!
MIY
WHY DON'T WE JUST RIDE THIS SINCE WE'RE RUNNING LATE?
WHAAA?
WELL, I GUESS IT'S FINE IF NO ONE FINDS OUT.
JUST FOR TODAY, OKAY?!
NECROMANCY CAN COME IN HANDY LIKE THIS, HUH?
IS IT, REALLY?
I GUESS WE'LL BE FINE IF BAD GUYS ATTACK...
BAD GUYS? YOU MEAN THE HALF-DEMON HUNTERS?
WELL, THERE MIGHT BE BAD DEMONS, TOO.
THERE COULD BE A FULL DEMON WITH POWERS LIKE YOURS OUT THERE.
どっす
DMPF
どっす
DMPF

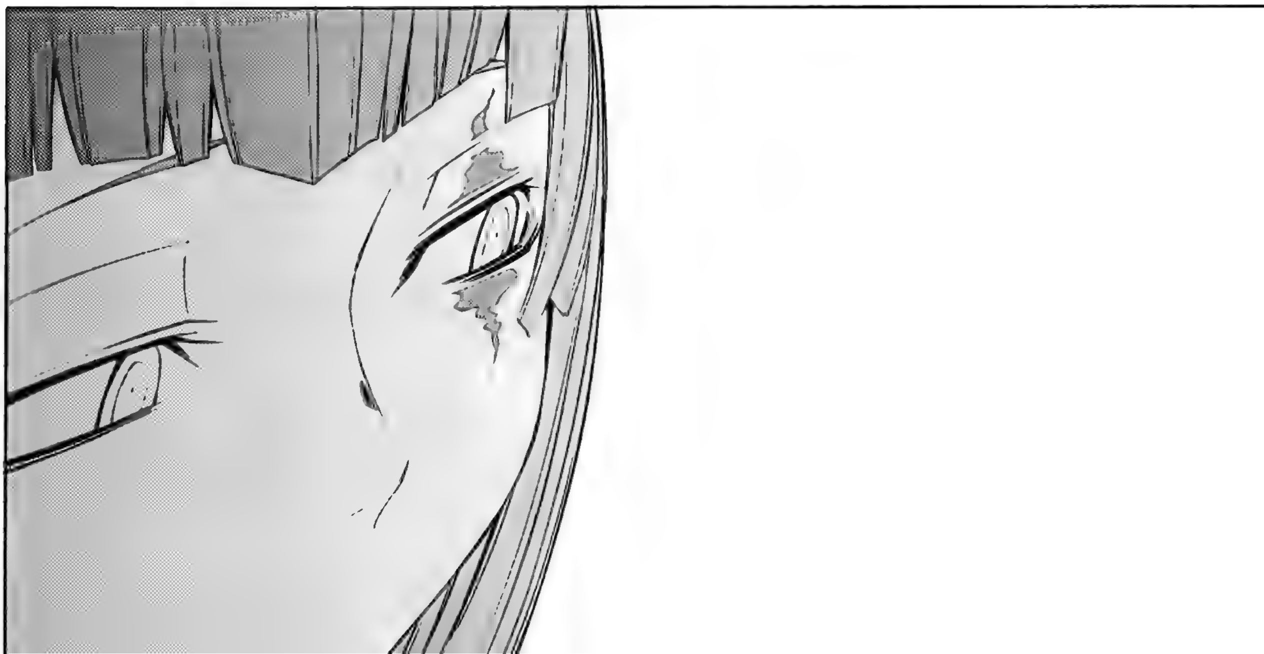

I WONDER IF THERE REALLY IS...
どっす
DMPF
どっす
DMPF
どっす
DMPF
AAH!
ずん
ZSHH
WHOA!
MIDORI-KO-CHAN!
GOOD MORNING, ZAKURO-CHAN!
THAT RIDING PROWESS... I SEE, MIDORI-KO-CHAN IS...
...A GOLEM USER!
ぶあっ
BWAHH
WHOA! NO, NO, NO!

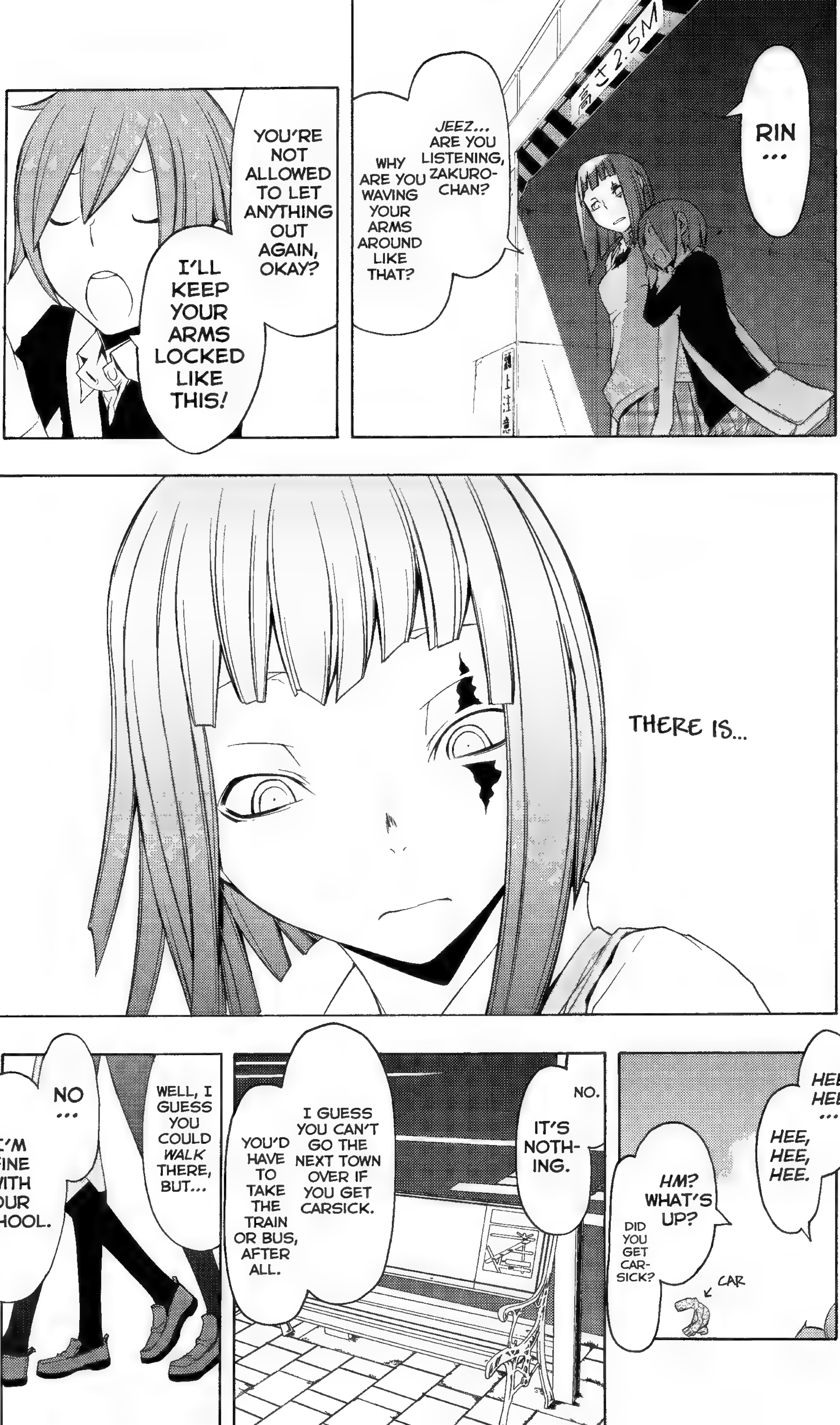

THANK GOODNESS HE DIDN'T GET MAD.
YEAH...
THAT TEACHER IS NICE.
ダム PNT
ダム PNT
HWOH! AGAIN!
AH! OOPS...
I'M SURE THE REASON IS BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS SPACING OUT, ZAKURO-CHAN!
YOU HAVE TO STAY ALERT!
CONFISCATED!
HMM...
THE TRUTH IS...

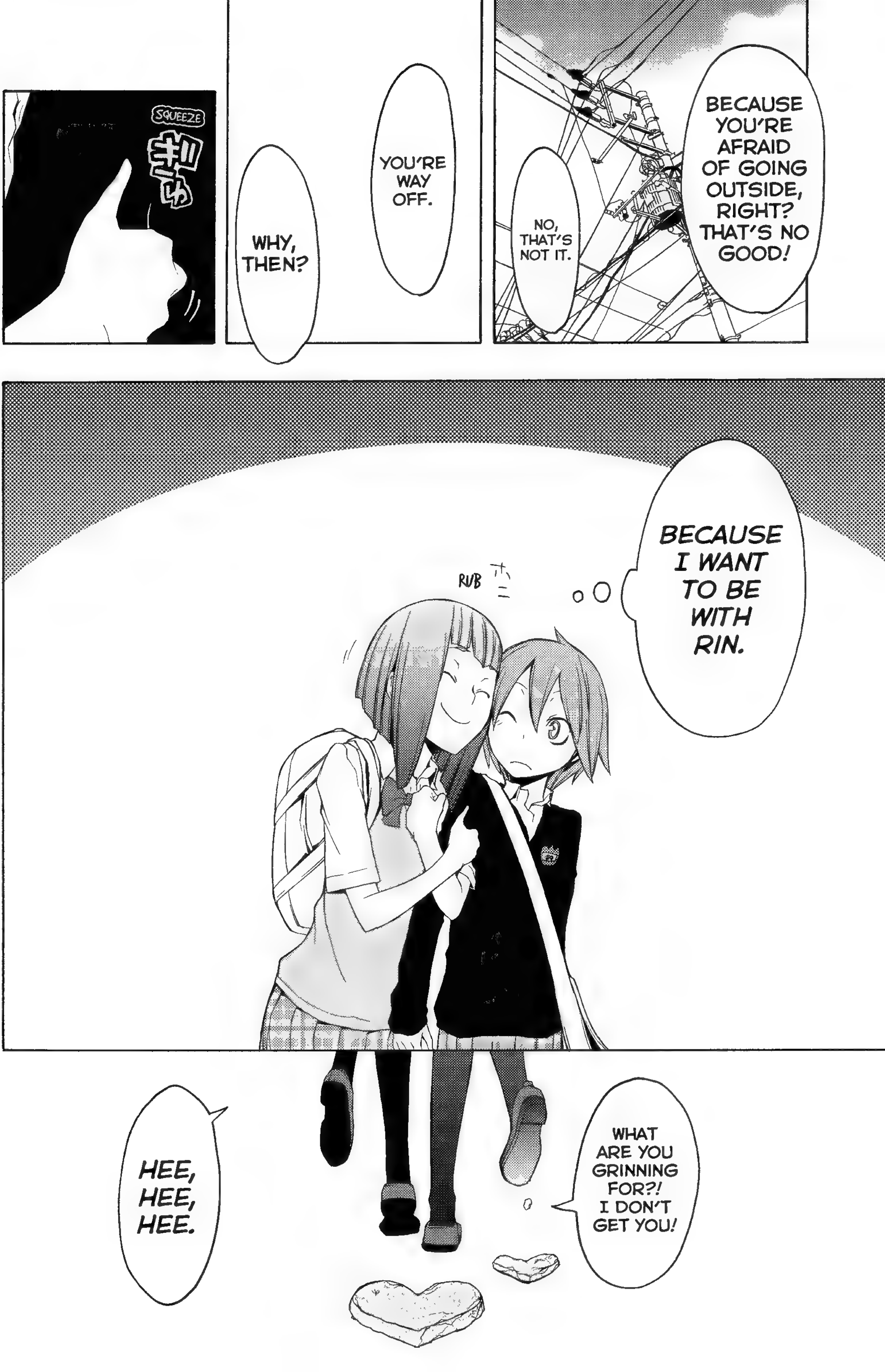

...I ALREADY KNOW THE CAUSE.
THE TIME I SPENT FALLEN...
THE DAYS I LIVED AS A NECROMANCER...
THOSE MEMORIES...
...STILL MAKE MY BODY ACHE.
AS A NECROMANCER, I CONTROLLED AND BRUSHED AGAINST SPIRITS DAILY.
THIS SENSE OF LOSS FROM HAVING PARTED WITH THAT PORTION OF ME...
...MIGHT BE CLOSE TO THE "VOID" THE DISTRICT MAYOR WAS TALKING ABOUT.


YAE-SAN SAID THAT EVEN THOUGH I WAS EXORCISED, MY NECROMANCY POWERS WILL NEVER GO AWAY.
I'M SURE THAT GOES FOR THE MEMORIES MY BODY REMEMBERS, TOO.
THIS VOID I FEEL MIGHT NEVER BE FILLED AGAIN.
THESE ARMS THAT CARRIED THE BURDEN OF MY NECROMANCY,
THE SAME ARMS THAT BECAME LIGHTER AFTER MY EXORCISM...
...WEIGH HEAVY ON MY HEART NOW.
"I'M LONELY. I WANT TO DEPEND ON SOMETHING."
THOSE WORDS ECHO DEEP WITHIN ME.
BUT NOW I'M SURE THERE'S NOTHING THAT WILL FILL THE VOID LEFT IN MY EMPTY ARMS.
I'M POSITIVE...


ぐわし
HUG



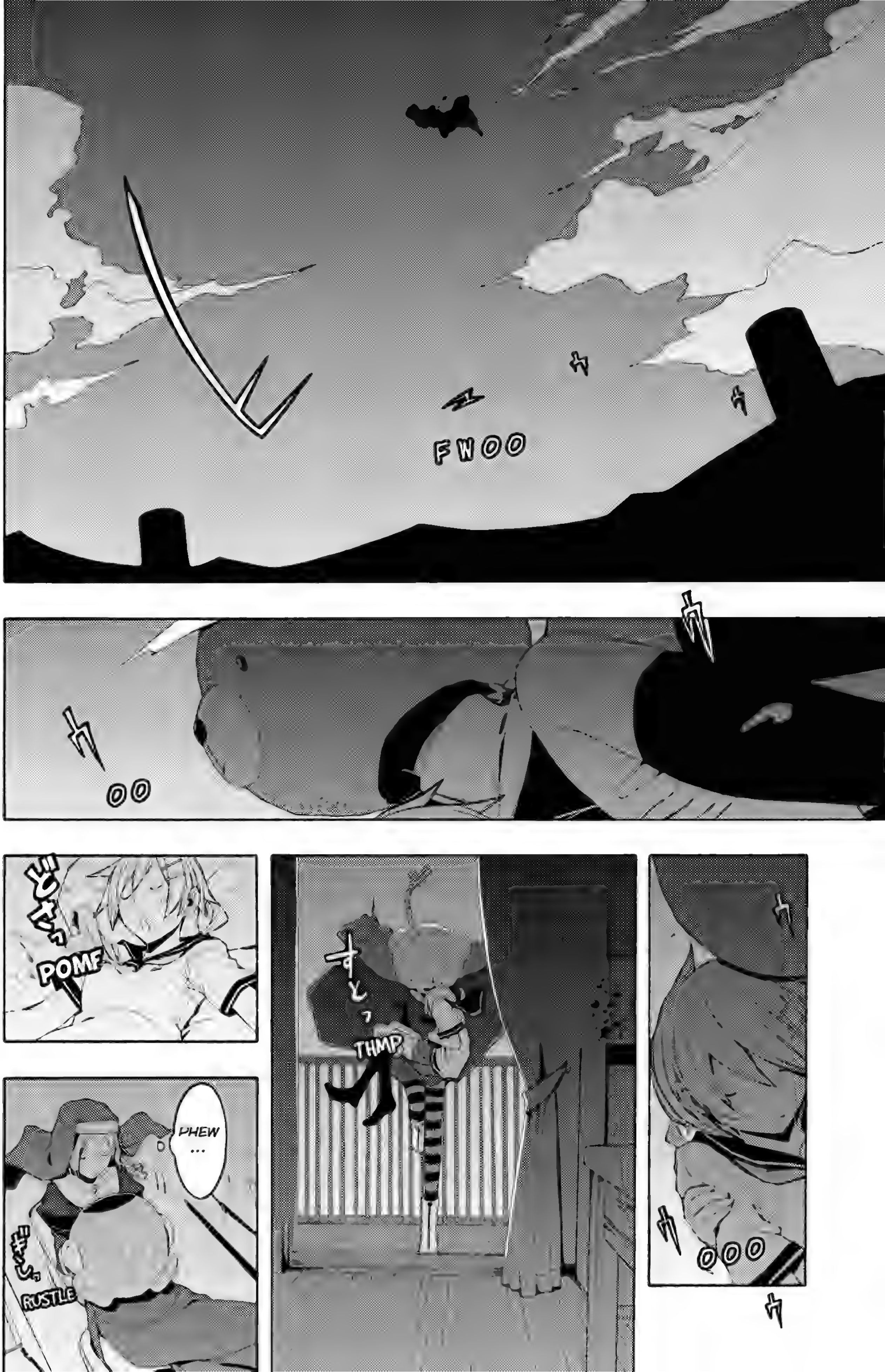

RIN...
高さ2.5M
頭上注意
JEEZ... ARE YOU LISTENING, ZAKURO-CHAN?
WHY ARE YOU WAVING YOUR ARMS AROUND LIKE THAT?
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO LET ANYTHING OUT AGAIN, OKAY?
I'LL KEEP YOUR ARMS LOCKED LIKE THIS!
THERE IS...
HEE HEE...
HEE, HEE, HEE.
HM? WHAT'S UP?
DID YOU GET CARSICK?
CAR
NO.
IT'S NOTHING.
I GUESS YOU CAN'T GO THE NEXT TOWN OVER IF YOU GET CARSICK.
YOU'D HAVE TO TAKE THE TRAIN OR BUS, AFTER ALL.
WELL, I GUESS YOU COULD *WALK* THERE, BUT...
NO...
I'M FINE WITH OUR SCHOOL.

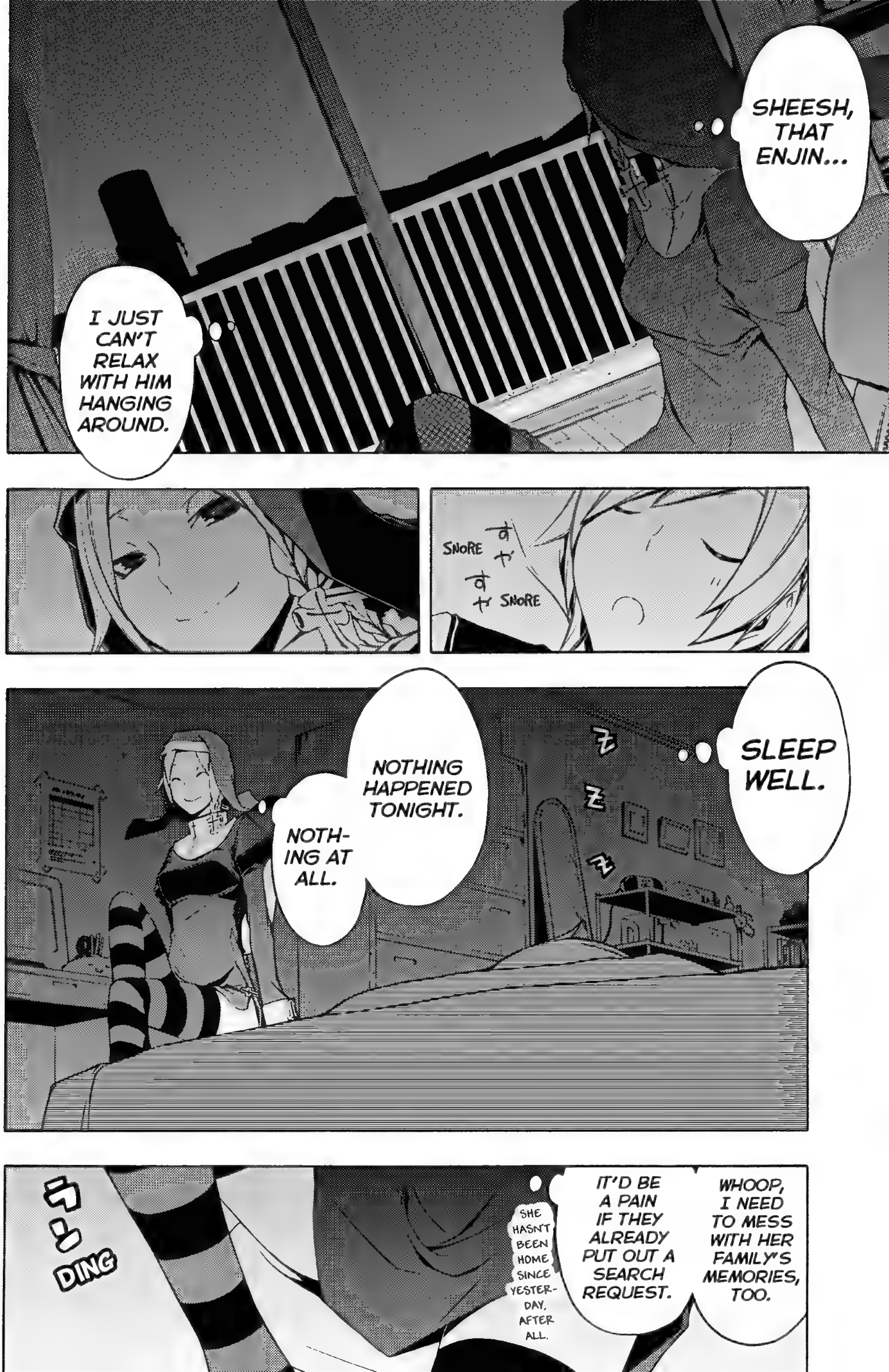

BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF GOING OUTSIDE, RIGHT? THAT'S NO GOOD!
NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
YOU'RE WAY OFF.
WHY, THEN?
SQUEEZE
ぎゅ
BECAUSE I WANT TO BE WITH RIN.
RUB
WHAT ARE YOU GRINNING FOR?! I DON'T GET YOU!
HEE, HEE, HEE.

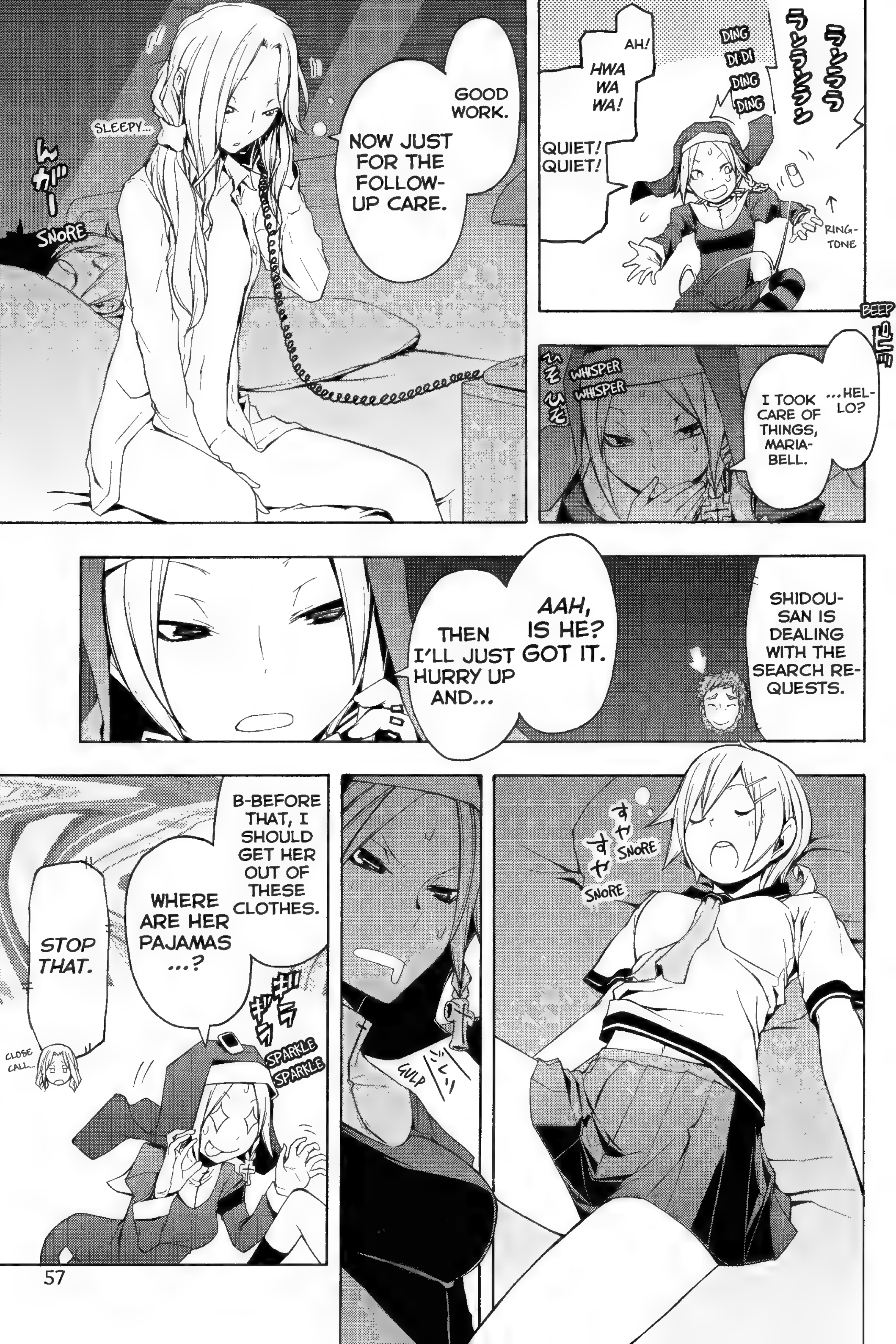
YOZAKURA QUARTET 10

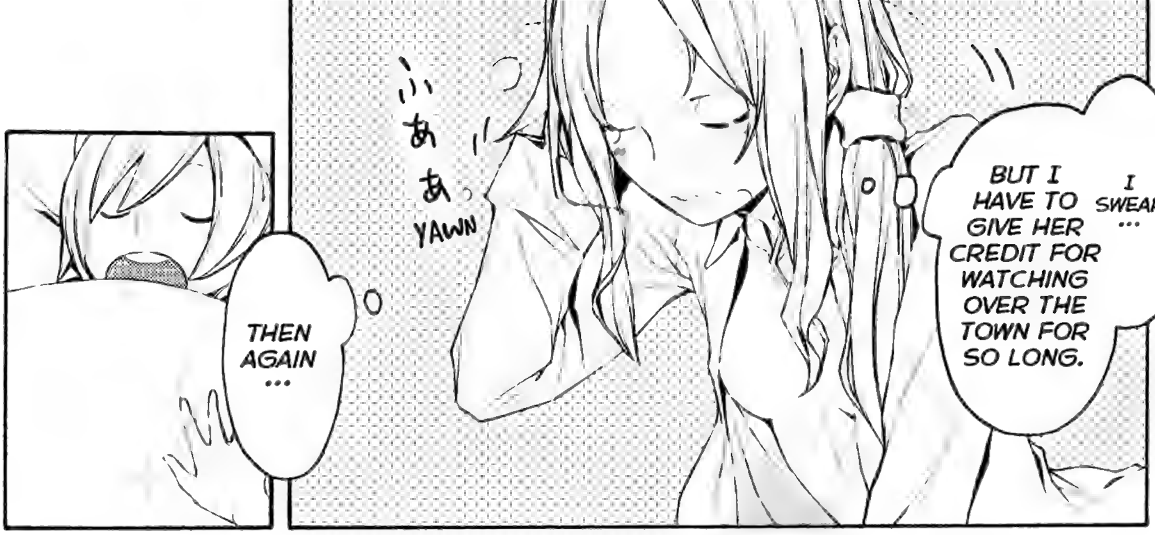
52ND NIGHT TO EACH THEIR OWN (PART TWO) END

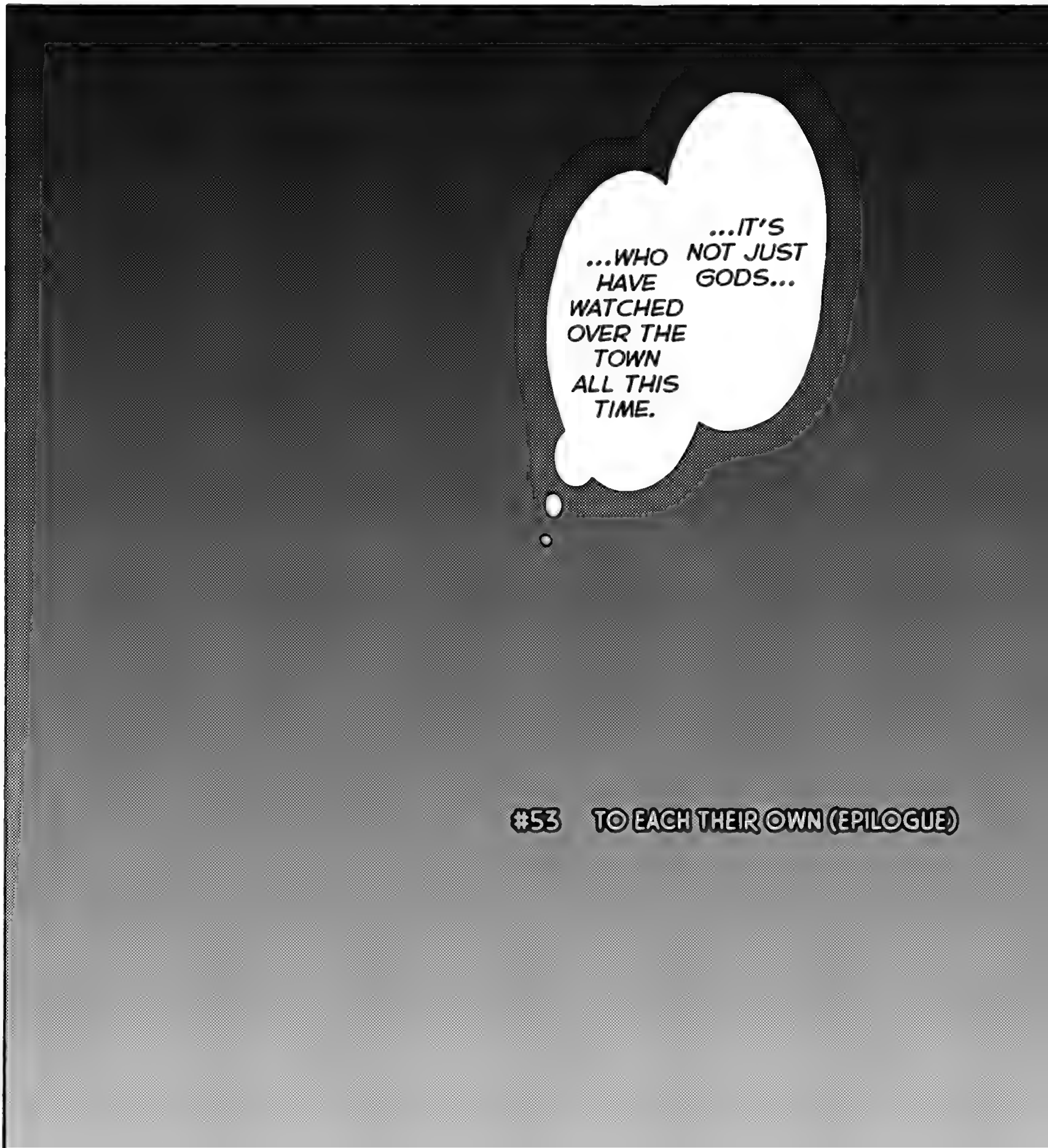
CAN BE USED FOR OKAMOCHI CARRYING PRACTICE.


FWOO
OO
OOO
すとっ
THMP
どさっ
POMF
PHEW ...
ぎゅっ
RUSTLE

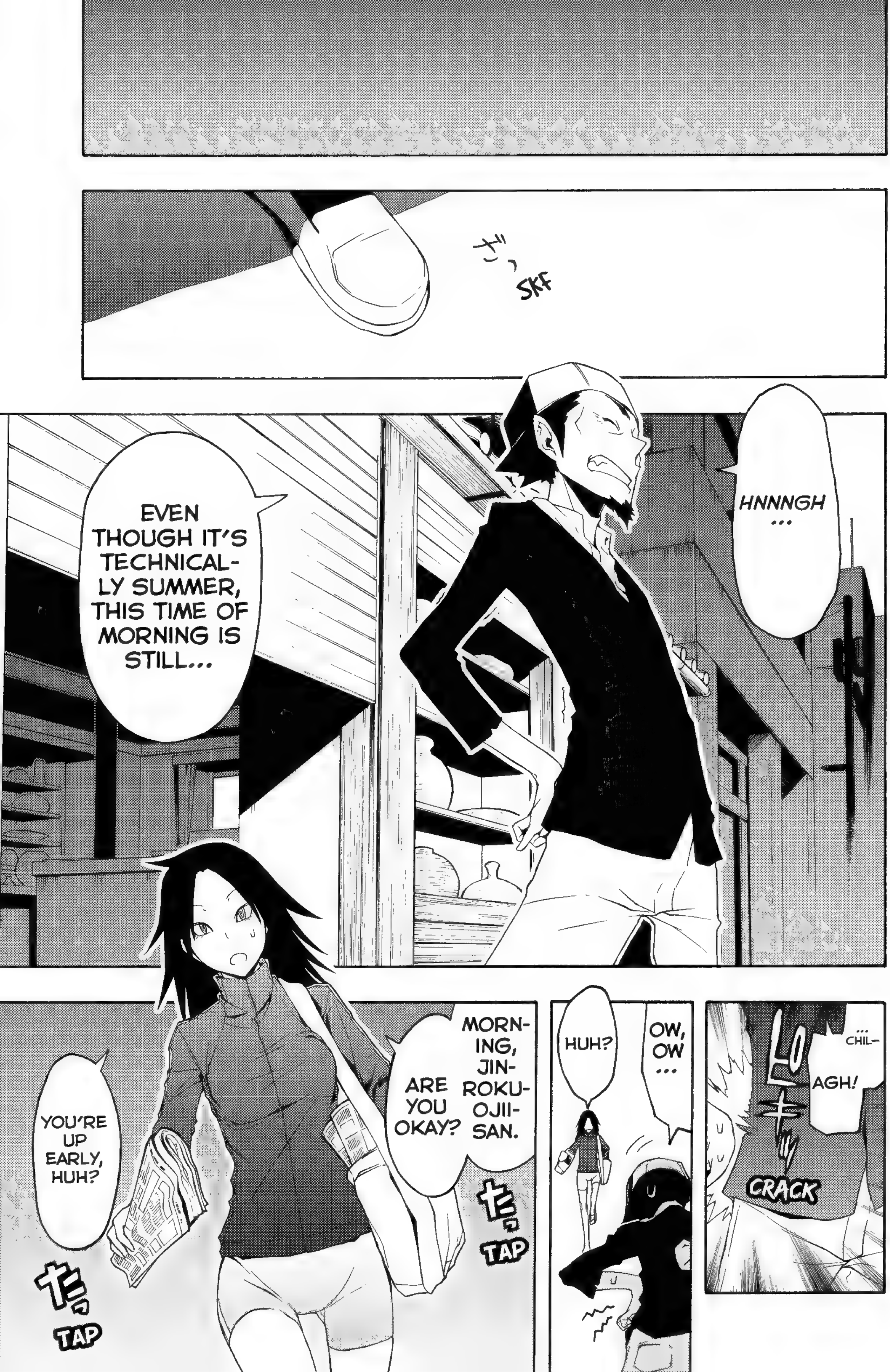

SHEESH, THAT ENJIN...
I JUST CAN'T RELAX WITH HIM HANGING AROUND.
すや すや
SNORE SNORE
SLEEP WELL.
NOTHING HAPPENED TONIGHT.
NOTHING AT ALL.
WHOOP, I NEED TO MESS WITH HER FAMILY'S MEMORIES, TOO.
IT'D BE A PAIN IF THEY ALREADY PUT OUT A SEARCH REQUEST.
SHE HASN'T BEEN HOME SINCE YESTERDAY, AFTER ALL.
DING

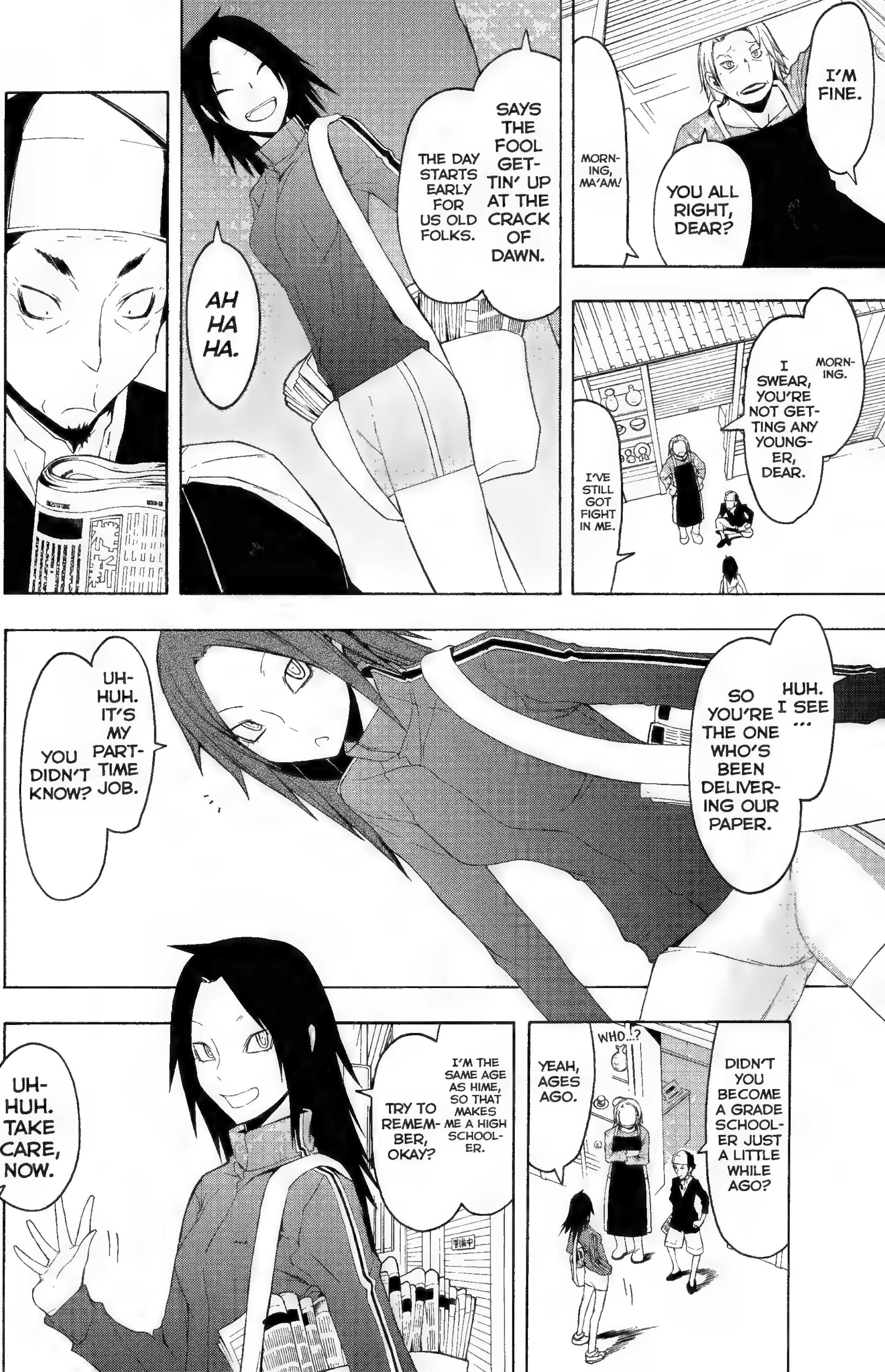

ランラランラン
DING DI DI DING DING
AH!
HWA WA WA!
QUIET! QUIET!
RING-TONE
BEEP ピッ
...HEL-LO?
I TOOK CARE OF THINGS, MARIA-BELL.
ひそひそ WHISPER WHISPER
GOOD WORK.
NOW JUST FOR THE FOLLOW-UP CARE.
SLEEPY...
んガー SNORE
SHIDOU-SAN IS DEALING WITH THE SEARCH RE-QUESTS.
AAH, IS HE? GOT IT.
THEN I'LL JUST HURRY UP AND...
すやすや SNORE SNORE
ごくり GULP
B-BEFORE THAT, I SHOULD GET HER OUT OF THESE CLOTHES.
WHERE ARE HER PAJAMAS ...?
ギラギラ SPARKLE SPARKLE
STOP THAT.
CLOSE CALL...

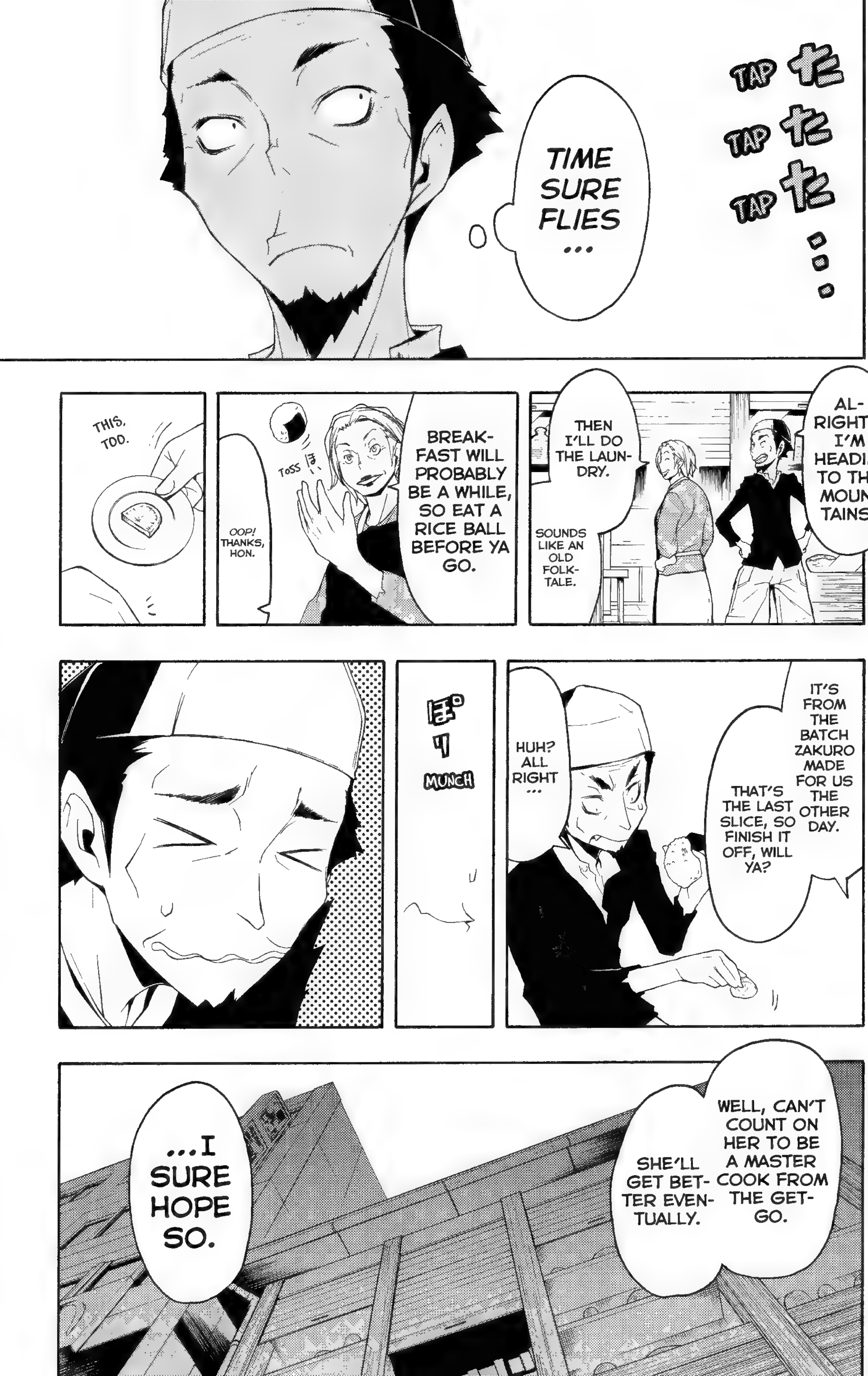

I SWEAR…
BUT I HAVE TO GIVE HER CREDIT FOR WATCHING OVER THE TOWN FOR SO LONG.
ふああ
YAWN
THEN AGAIN…

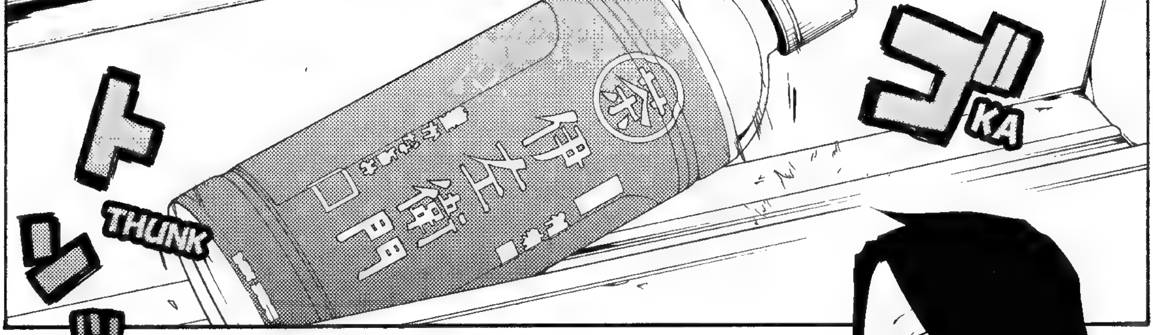

…IT'S NOT JUST GODS…
…WHO HAVE WATCHED OVER THE TOWN ALL THIS TIME.

#53 TO EACH THEIR OWN (EPILOGUE)

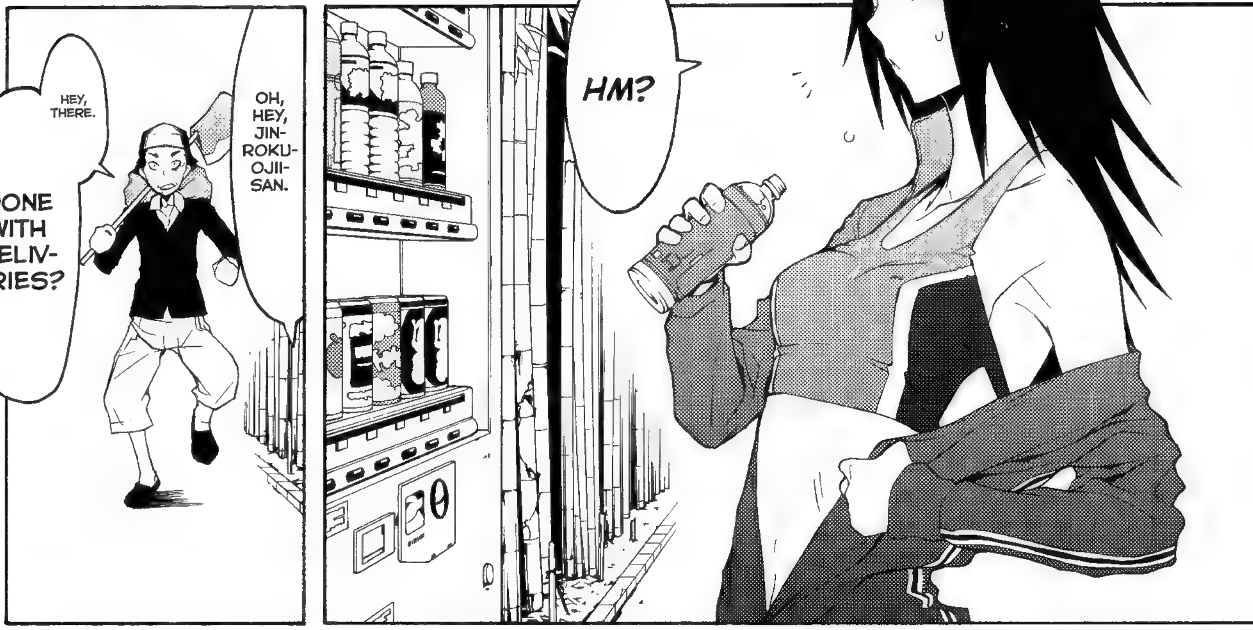

ざっ
SKF
HNNNGH…
EVEN THOUGH IT'S TECHNICALLY SUMMER, THIS TIME OF MORNING IS STILL…
…CHIL-
AGH!
ピキッ
CRACK
OW, OW…
HUH?
MORNING, JINROKU-OJIISAN.
ARE YOU OKAY?
たっ
TAP
YOU'RE UP EARLY, HUH?
たっ
TAP

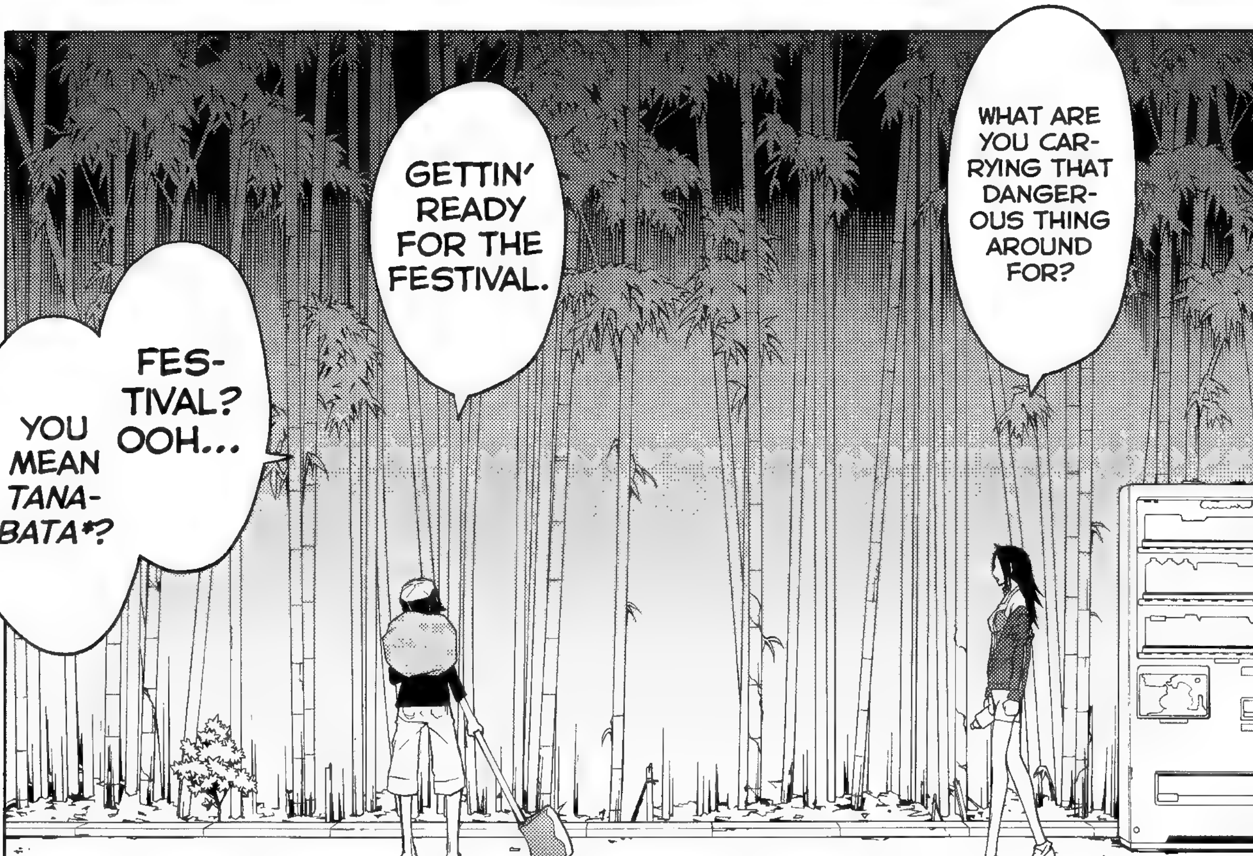

YOU ALL RIGHT, DEAR?
I'M FINE.
MORNING, MA'AM!
MORNING.
I SWEAR, YOU'RE NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER, DEAR.
I'VE STILL GOT FIGHT IN ME.
THE DAY STARTS EARLY FOR US OLD FOLKS. SAYS THE FOOL GETTIN' UP AT THE CRACK OF DAWN.
AH HA HA.
HUH. I SEE... SO YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BEEN DELIVERING OUR PAPER.
...
UH-HUH. IT'S MY PART-TIME JOB. YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
DIDN'T YOU BECOME A GRADE SCHOOLER JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO?
YEAH, AGES AGO.
WHO...?
I'M THE SAME AGE AS HIME, SO THAT MAKES ME A HIGH SCHOOLER.
TRY TO REMEMBER, OKAY?
UH-HUH. TAKE CARE, NOW.


TAP た TAP た TAP た...
TIME SURE FLIES...
ALRIGHTY! I'M HEADIN' TO THE MOUNTAINS.
THEN I'LL DO THE LAUNDRY.
SOUNDS LIKE AN OLD FOLKTALE.
BREAKFAST WILL PROBABLY BE A WHILE, SO EAT A RICE BALL BEFORE YA GO.
TOSS ほい
OOP! THANKS, HON.
THIS, TOO.
IT'S FROM THE BATCH ZAKURO MADE FOR US THE OTHER DAY.
THAT'S THE LAST SLICE, SO FINISH IT OFF, WILL YA?
HUH? ALL RIGHT...
ぽり MUNCH
WELL, CAN'T COUNT ON HER TO BE A MASTER COOK FROM THE GET-GO.
SHE'LL GET BETTER EVENTUALLY.
...I SURE HOPE SO.

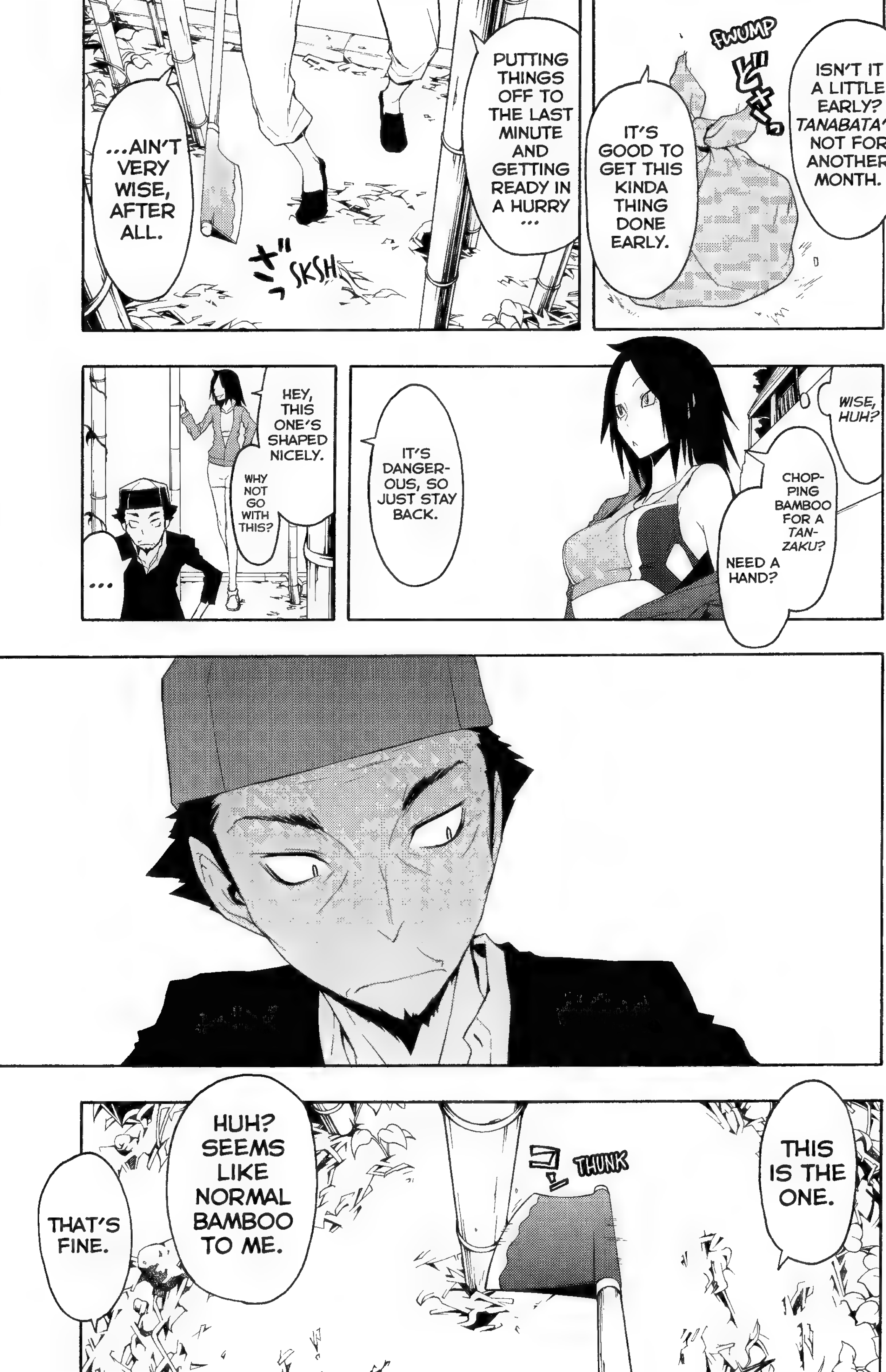

ゴッ
KA
トンッ
THUNK
茶

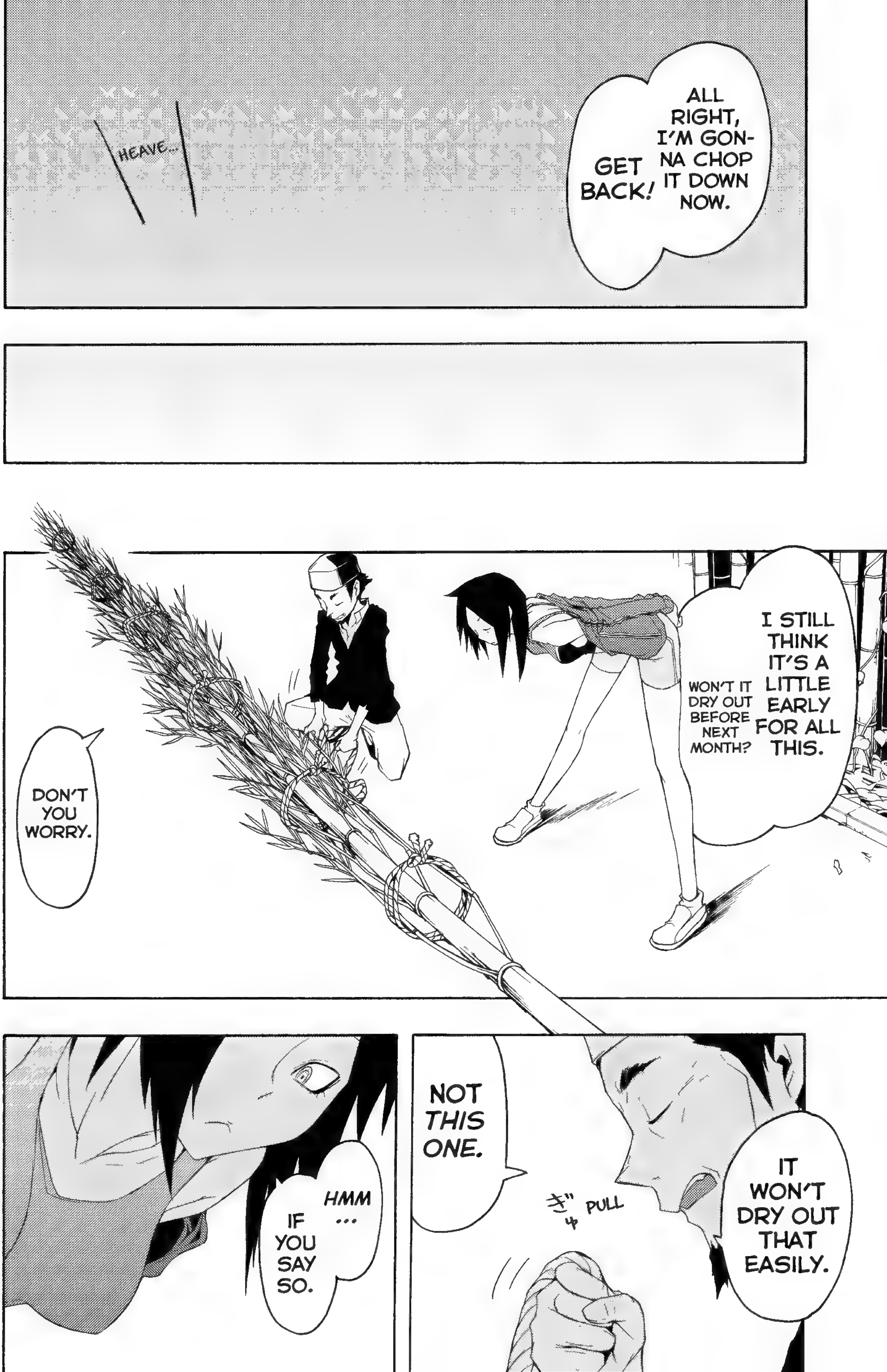
Bottle: *lemon* Tea

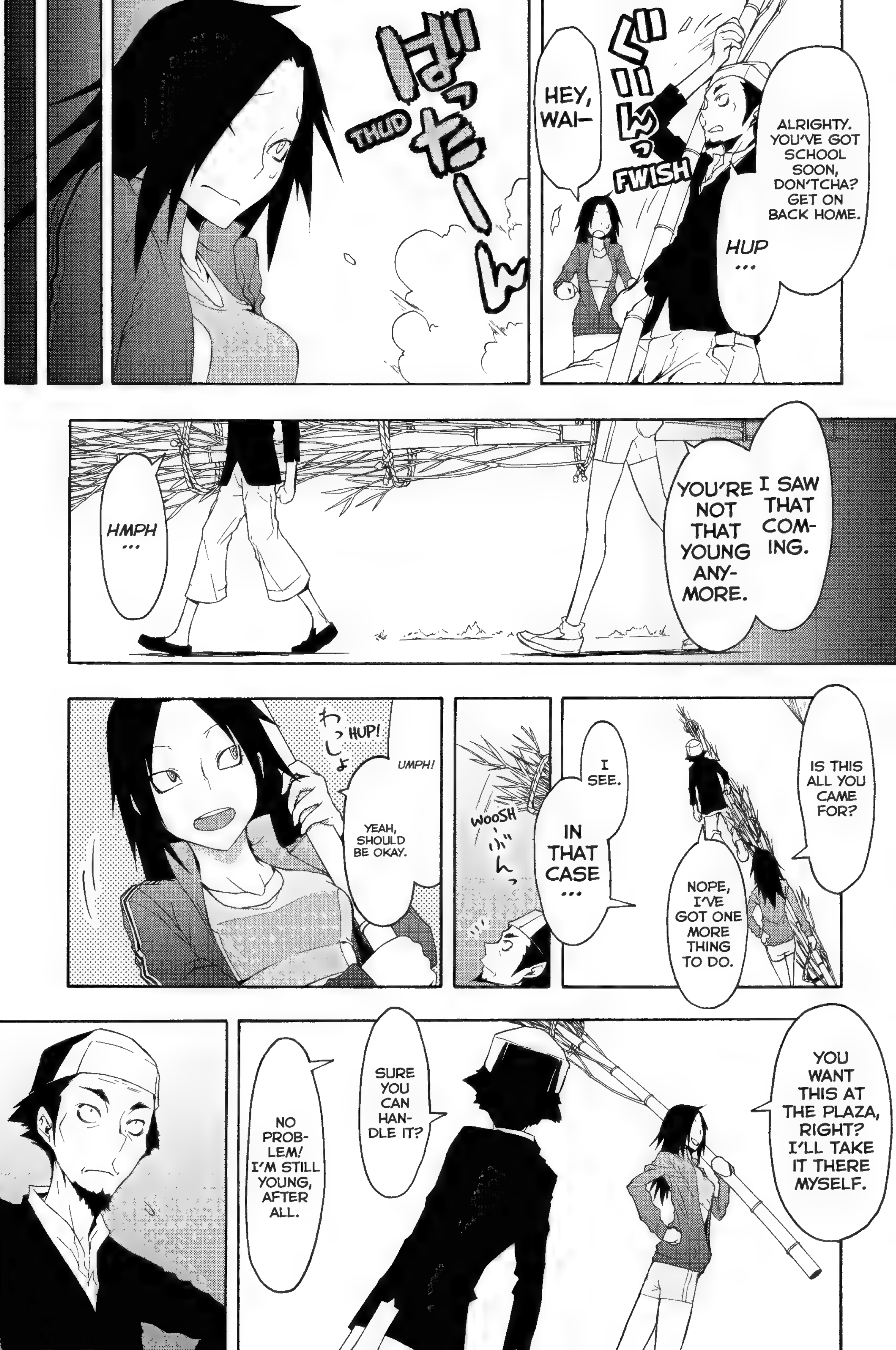

HM?
OH, HEY, JINROKU-OJII-SAN.
HEY, THERE.
DONE WITH DELIVERIES?

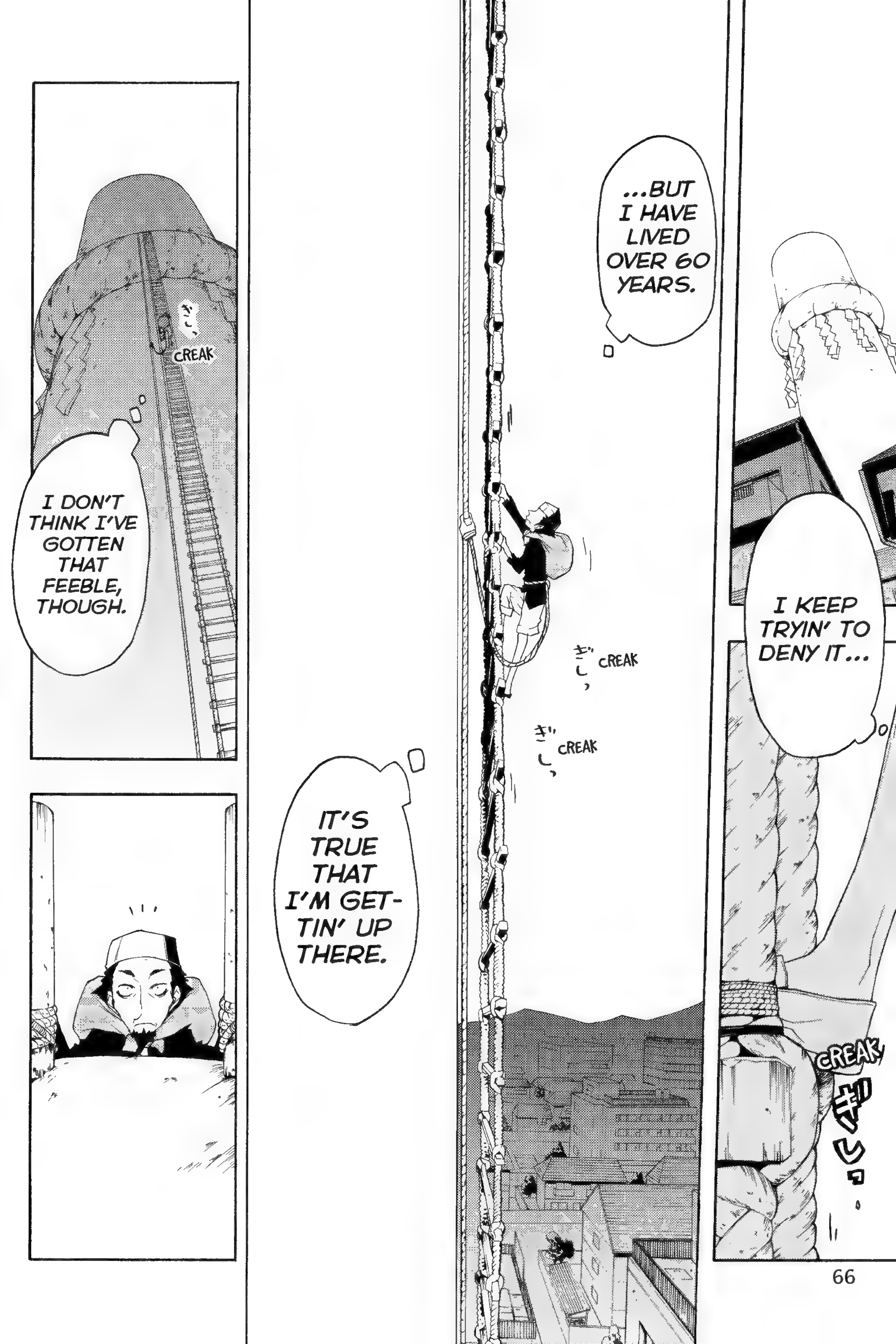

WHAT ARE YOU CARRYING THAT DANGEROUS THING AROUND FOR?
GETTIN' READY FOR THE FESTIVAL.
FESTIVAL? OOH...
YOU MEAN *TANABATA**?

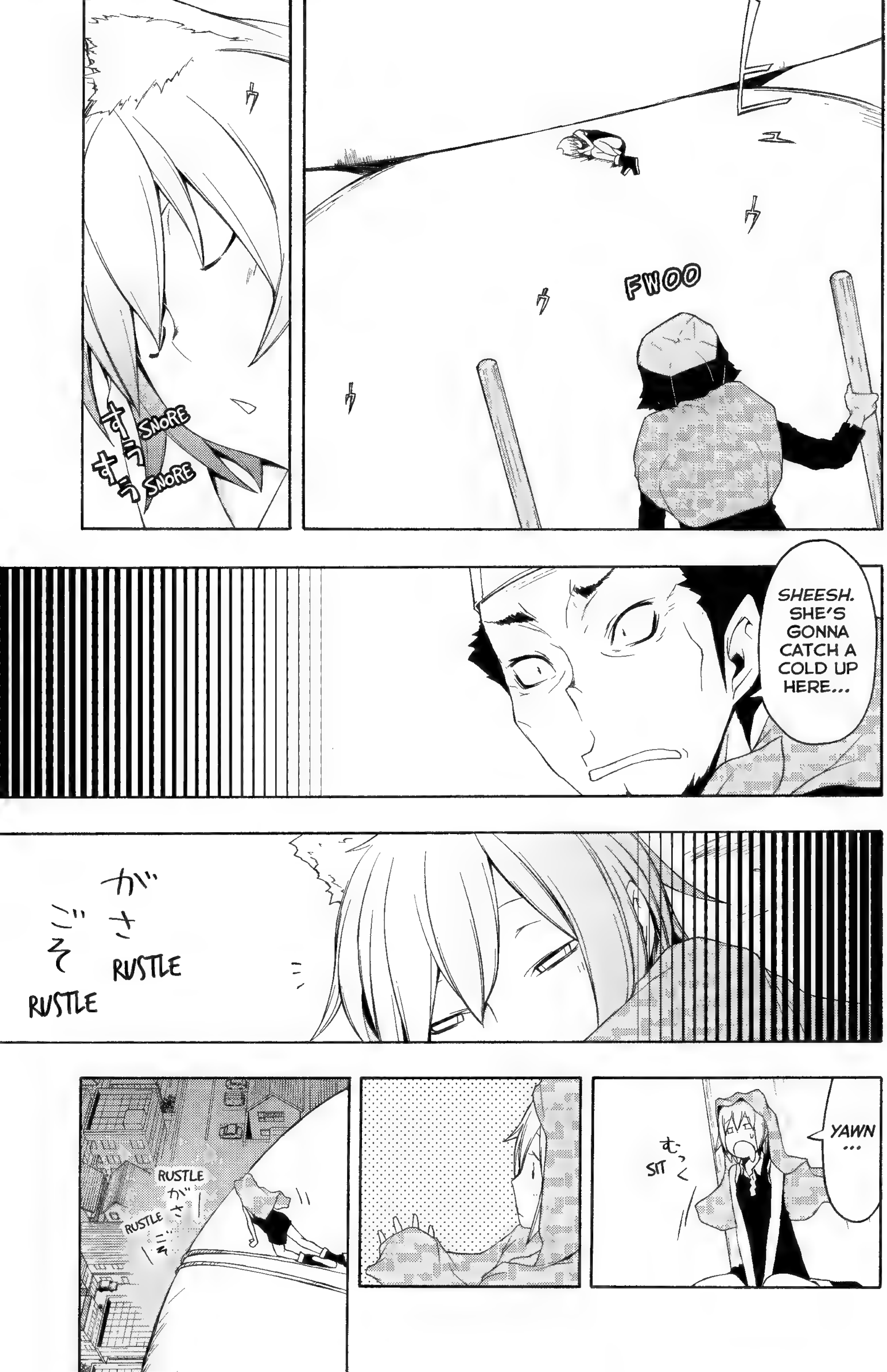
**Tanabata*, also known as the "star festival," is a Japanese festival held in spring to celebrate the legend of the two star-crossed deities Orihime and Hikoboshi, represented by the stars Vega and Altair respectively.

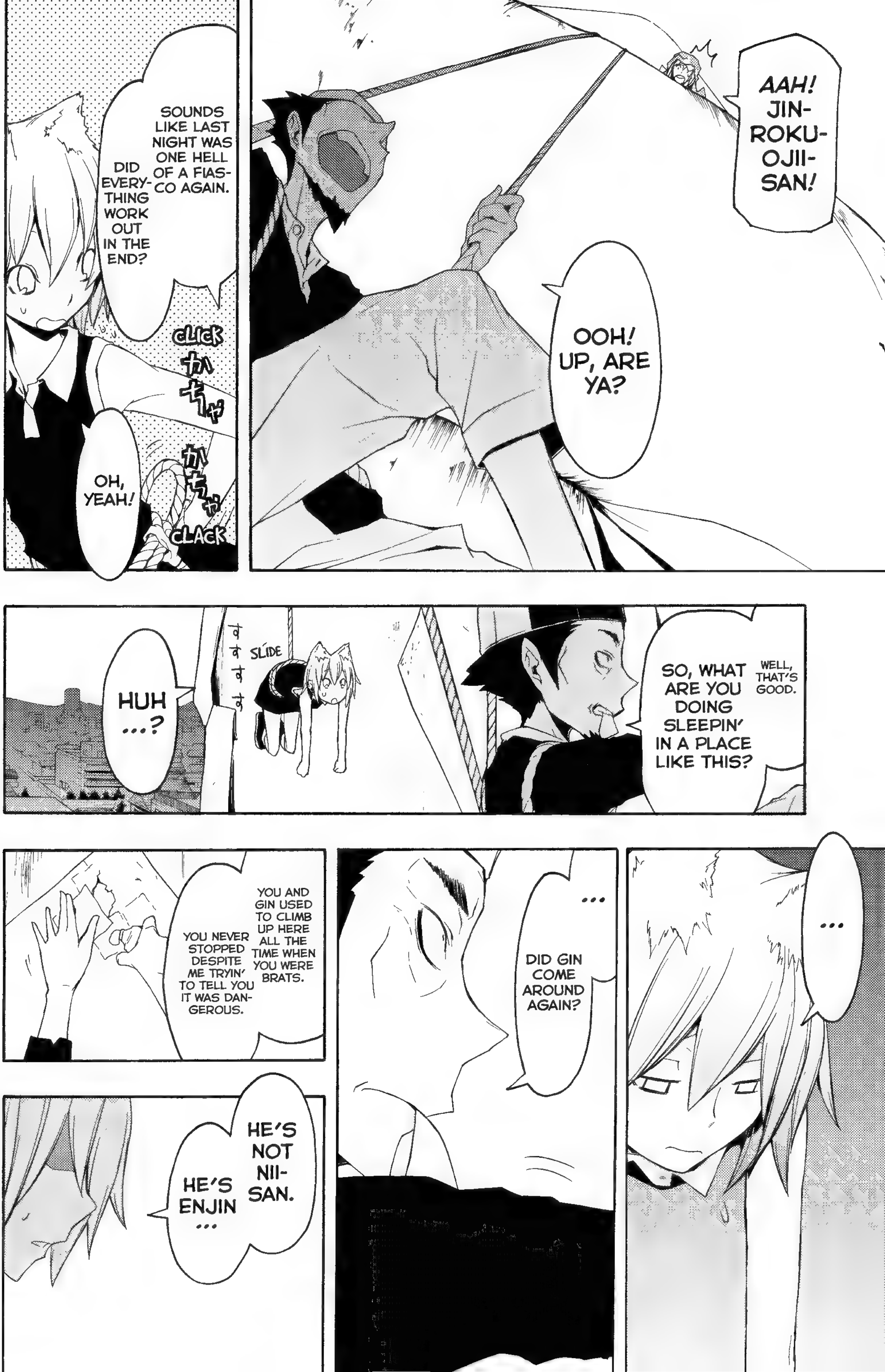

ISN'T IT A LITTLE EARLY? *TANABATA*'S NOT FOR ANOTHER MONTH.
FWUMP
IT'S GOOD TO GET THIS KINDA THING DONE EARLY.
PUTTING THINGS OFF TO THE LAST MINUTE AND GETTING READY IN A HURRY...
...AIN'T VERY WISE, AFTER ALL.
SKSH
WISE, HUH?
CHOPPING BAMBOO FOR A *TANZAKU*?
NEED A HAND?
IT'S DANGEROUS, SO JUST STAY BACK.
HEY, THIS ONE'S SHAPED NICELY.
WHY NOT GO WITH THIS?
...
THIS IS THE ONE.
THUNK
HUH? SEEMS LIKE NORMAL BAMBOO TO ME.
THAT'S FINE.

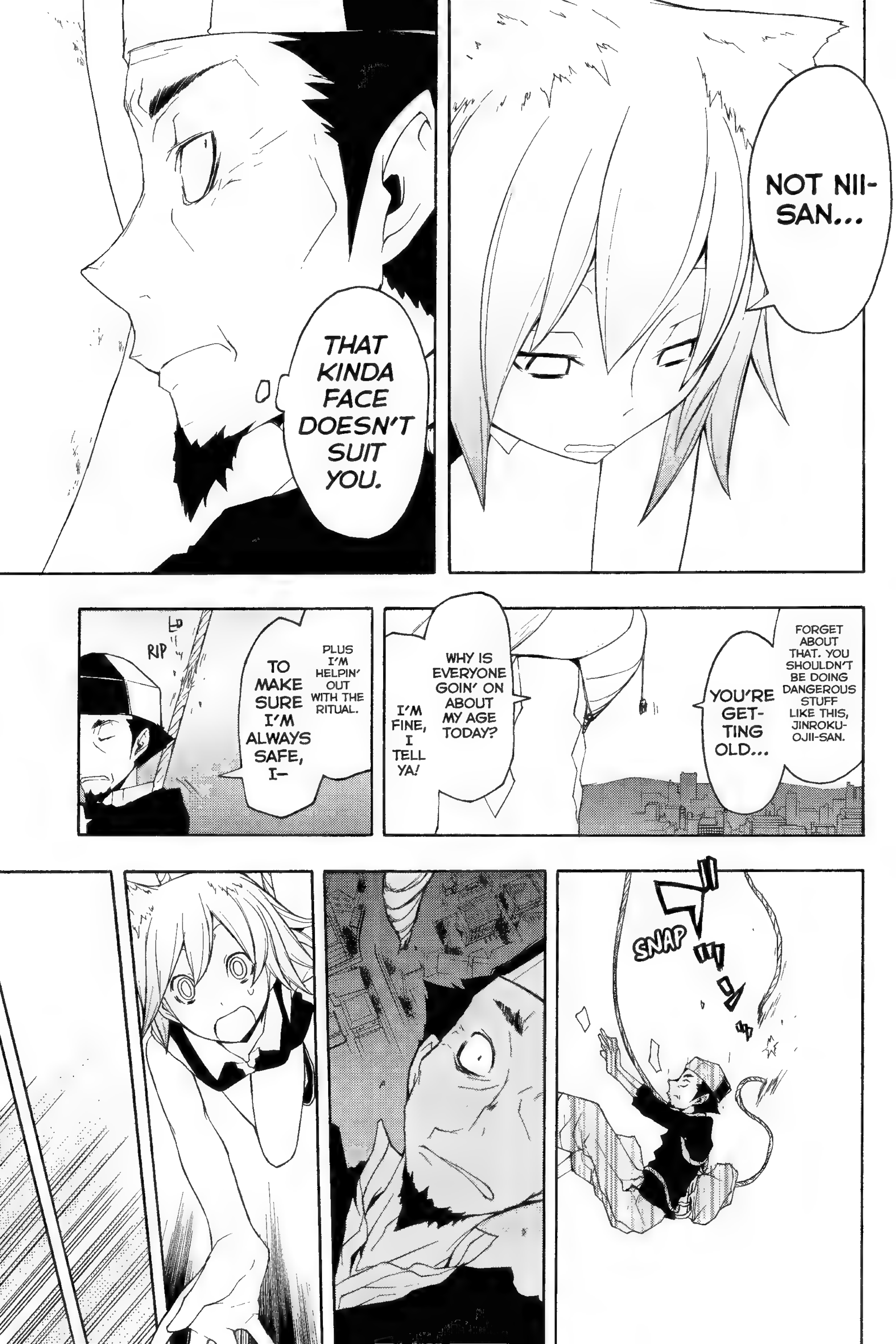

ALL RIGHT, I'M GONNA CHOP IT DOWN NOW.
GET BACK!
HEAVE...
I STILL THINK IT'S A LITTLE EARLY FOR ALL THIS.
WON'T IT DRY OUT BEFORE NEXT MONTH?
DON'T YOU WORRY.
IT WON'T DRY OUT THAT EASILY.
ぎゅ PULL
NOT THIS ONE.
HMM...
IF YOU SAY SO.

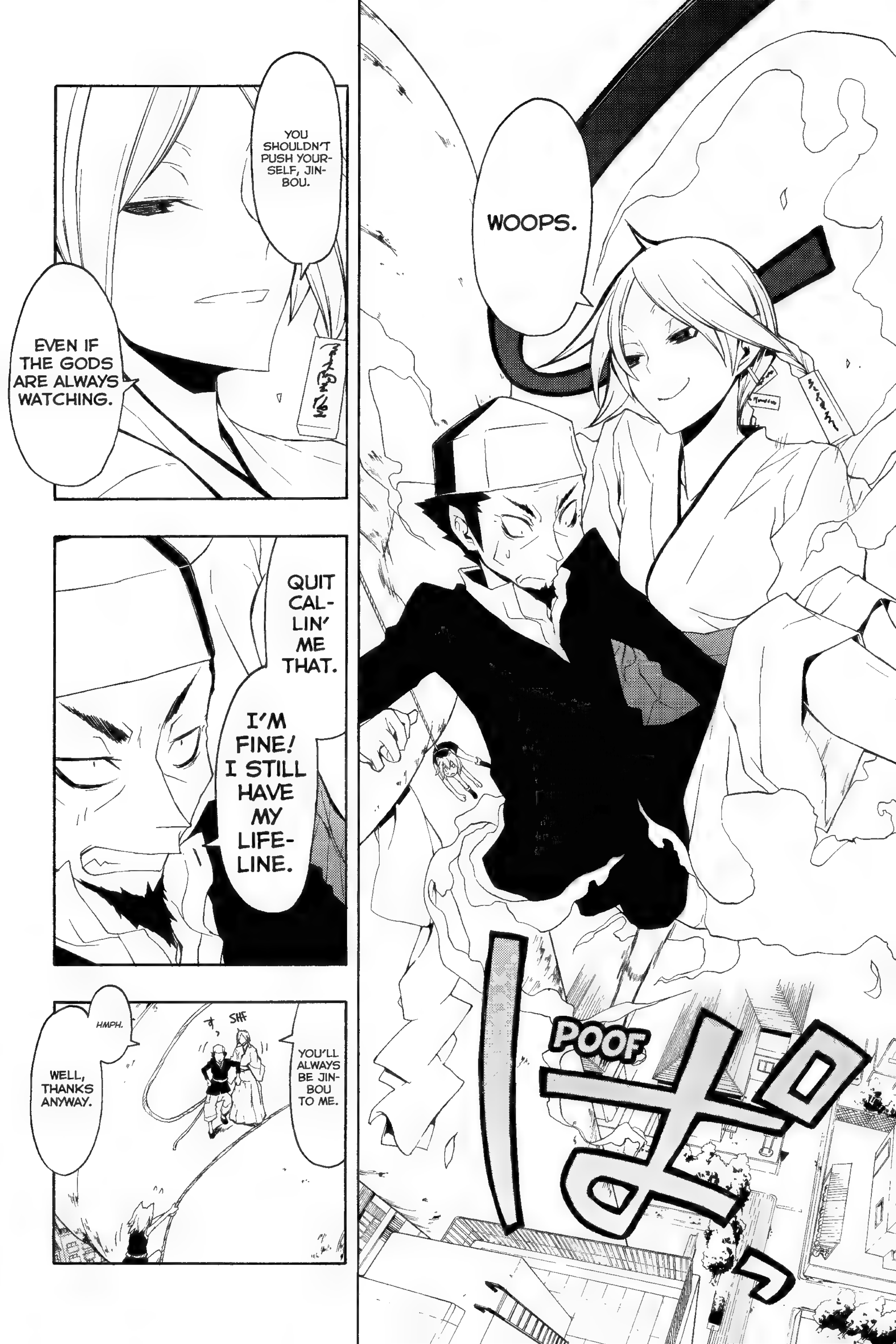

ALRIGHTY. YOU'VE GOT SCHOOL SOON, DON'TCHA? GET ON BACK HOME.
HUP ...
ぐぃんっ
FWISH
HEY, WAI-
ばったーん
THUD
I SAW THAT COMING.
YOU'RE NOT THAT YOUNG ANYMORE.
HMPH ...
IS THIS ALL YOU CAME FOR?
NOPE, I'VE GOT ONE MORE THING TO DO.
I SEE.
IN THAT CASE ...
ぶんっ
WOOSH
わっしょ
HUP!
UMPH!
YEAH, SHOULD BE OKAY.
YOU WANT THIS AT THE PLAZA, RIGHT? I'LL TAKE IT THERE MYSELF.
SURE YOU CAN HANDLE IT?
NO PROBLEM! I'M STILL YOUNG, AFTER ALL.

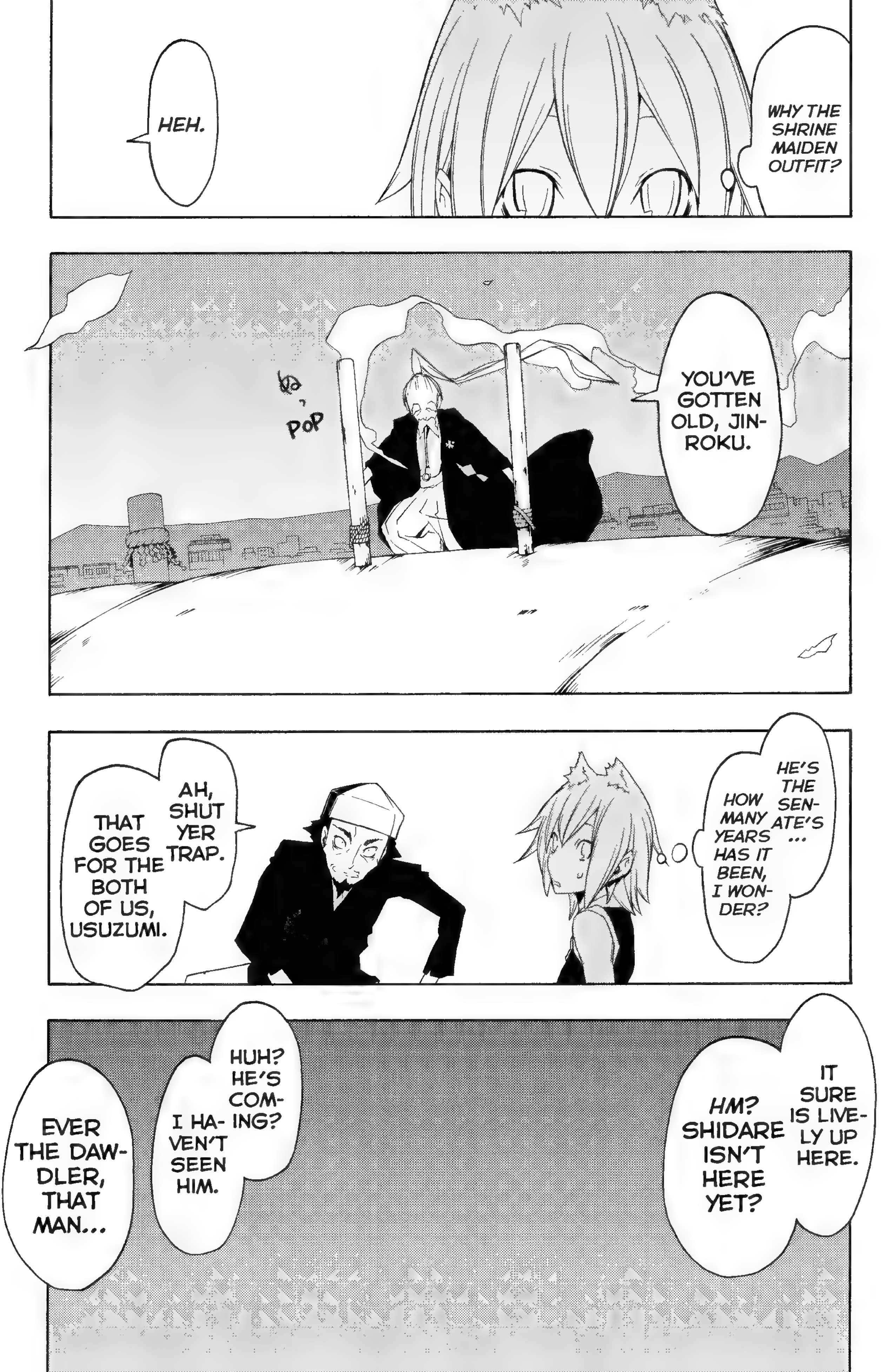

I KEEP TRYIN' TO DENY IT...
CREAK
ギシッ
...BUT I HAVE LIVED OVER 60 YEARS.
ぎし CREAK
ぎし CREAK
IT'S TRUE THAT I'M GETTIN' UP THERE.
きし CREAK
I DON'T THINK I'VE GOTTEN THAT FEEBLE, THOUGH.

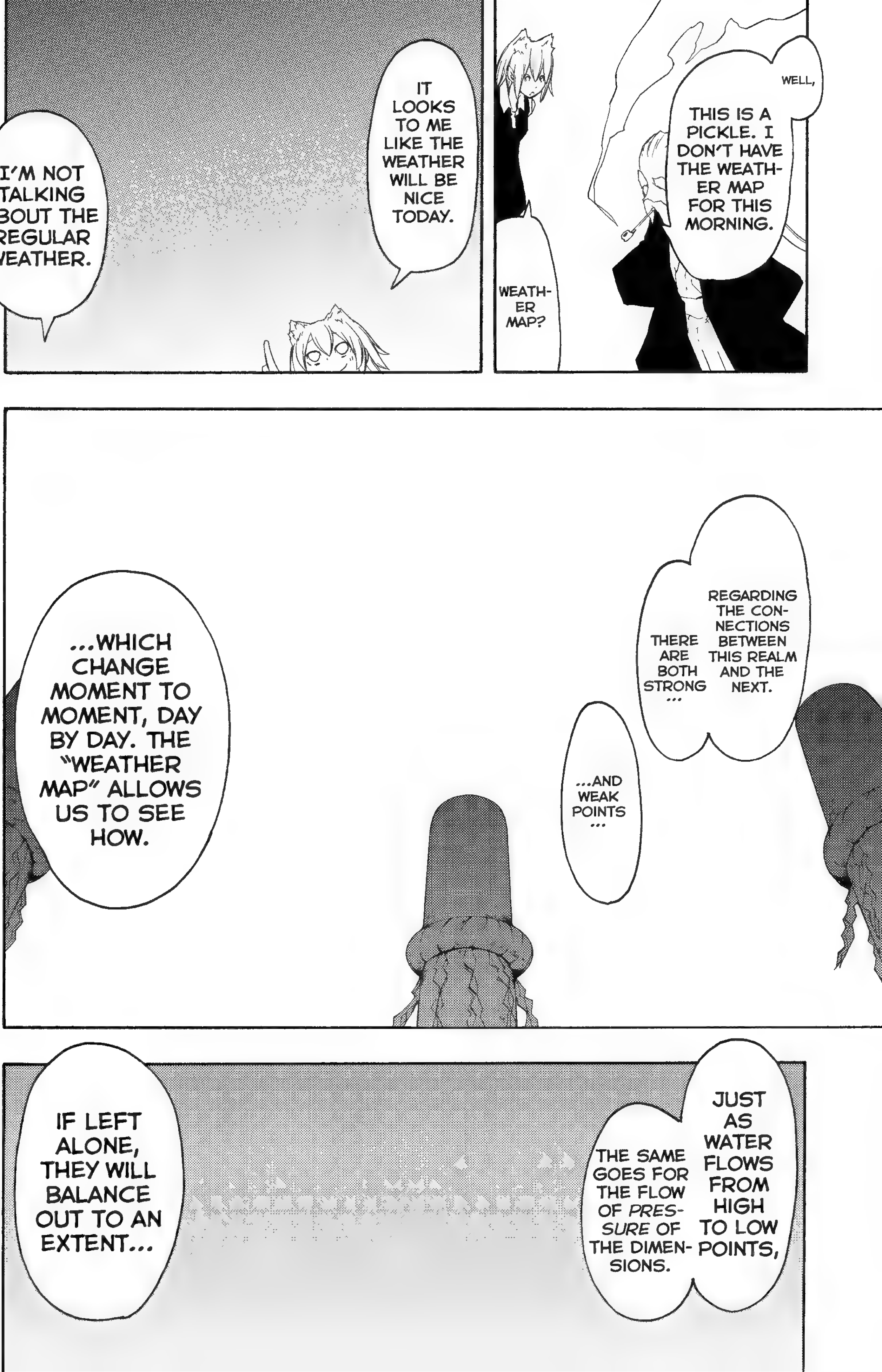

ヒュ
FWOO
すぅ SNORE
すぅ SNORE
SHEESH. SHE'S GONNA CATCH A COLD UP HERE...
がさ RUSTLE
ごそ RUSTLE
YAWN...
むっく SIT
RUSTLE がさ
RUSTLE ごそ

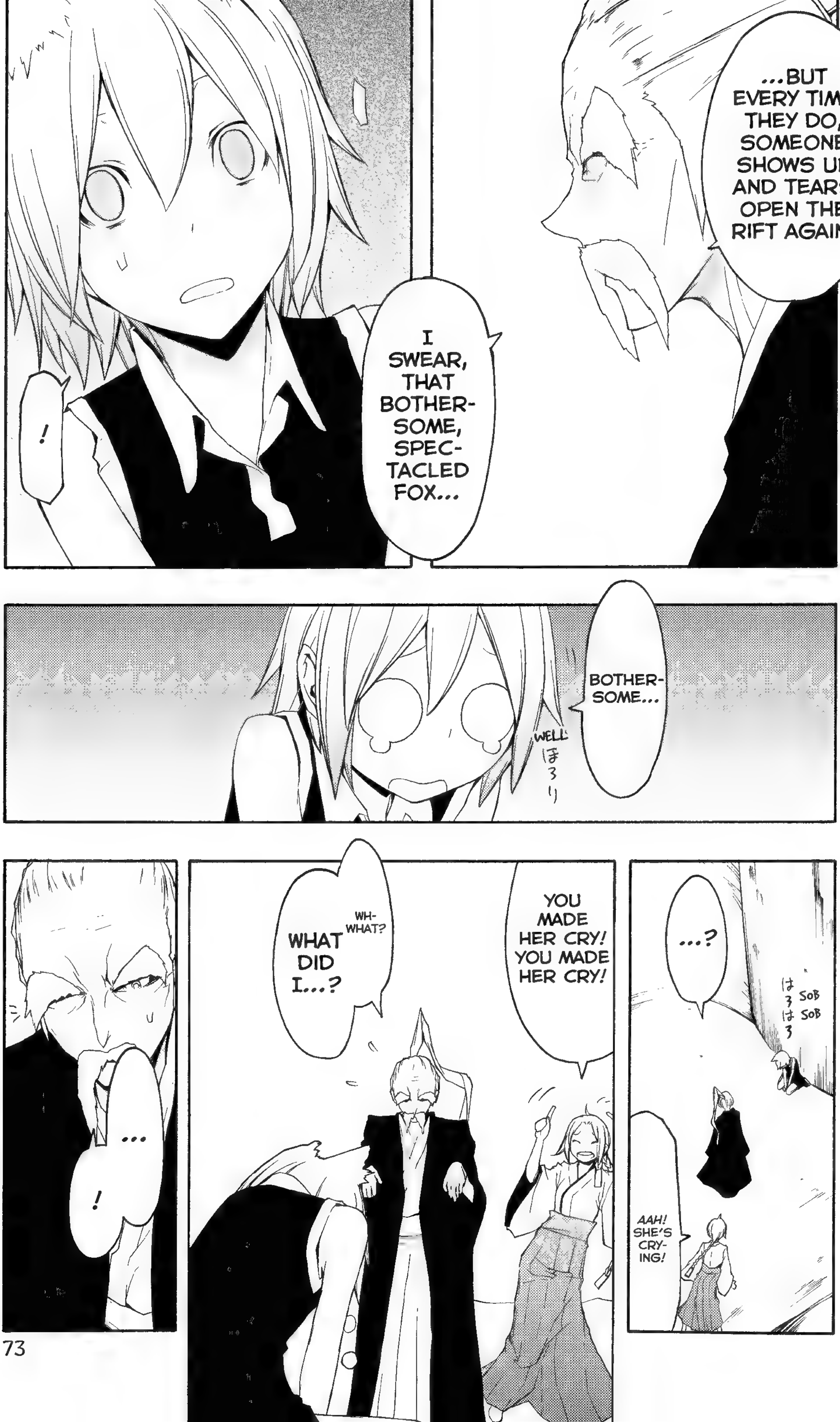

AAH! JINROKU-OJII-SAN!
OOH! UP, ARE YA?
SOUNDS LIKE LAST NIGHT WAS ONE HELL OF A FIASCO AGAIN.
DID EVERYTHING WORK OUT IN THE END?
CLICK カチャ
カチャ CLACK
OH, YEAH!
WELL, THAT'S GOOD.
SO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING SLEEPIN' IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
SLIDE すすすす
HUH...?
...
...
DID GIN COME AROUND AGAIN?
YOU AND GIN USED TO CLIMB UP HERE ALL THE TIME WHEN YOU WERE BRATS.
YOU NEVER STOPPED DESPITE ME TRYIN' TO TELL YOU IT WAS DANGEROUS.
HE'S NOT NII-SAN.
HE'S ENJIN...

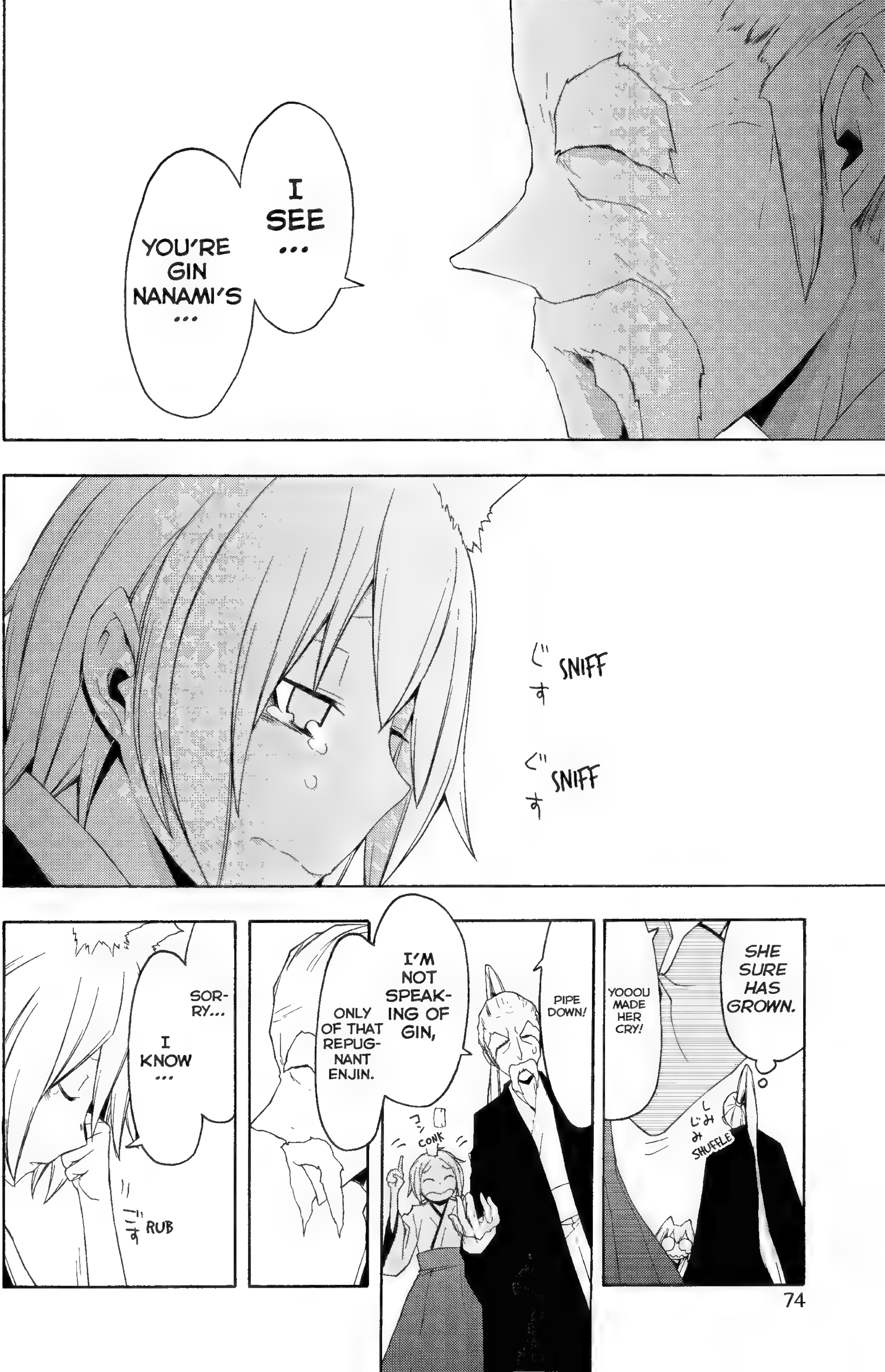

NOT NII-SAN...
THAT KINDA FACE DOESN'T SUIT YOU.
FORGET ABOUT THAT. YOU SHOULDN'T BE DOING DANGEROUS STUFF LIKE THIS, JINROKU-OJII-SAN.
YOU'RE GETTING OLD...
WHY IS EVERYONE GOIN' ON ABOUT MY AGE TODAY?
I'M FINE, I TELL YA!
PLUS I'M HELPIN' OUT WITH THE RITUAL.
TO MAKE SURE I'M ALWAYS SAFE, I—
RIP
SNAP

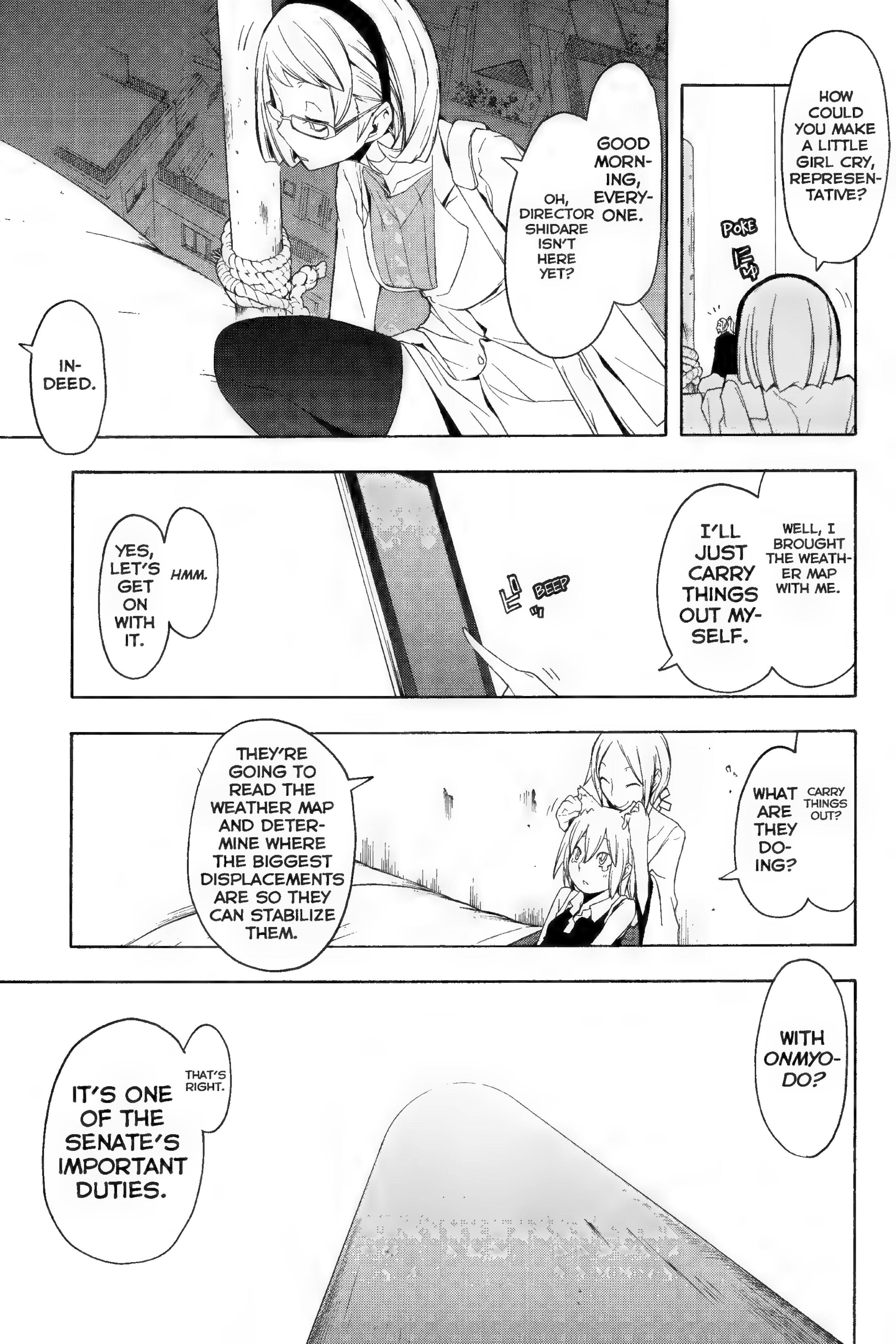

WOOPS.
POOF
ぽっ
YOU SHOULDN'T PUSH YOURSELF, JINBOU.
EVEN IF THE GODS ARE ALWAYS WATCHING.
QUIT CALLIN' ME THAT.
I'M FINE! I STILL HAVE MY LIFELINE.
YOU'LL ALWAYS BE JINBOU TO ME.
す
SHF
HMPH.
WELL, THANKS ANYWAY.

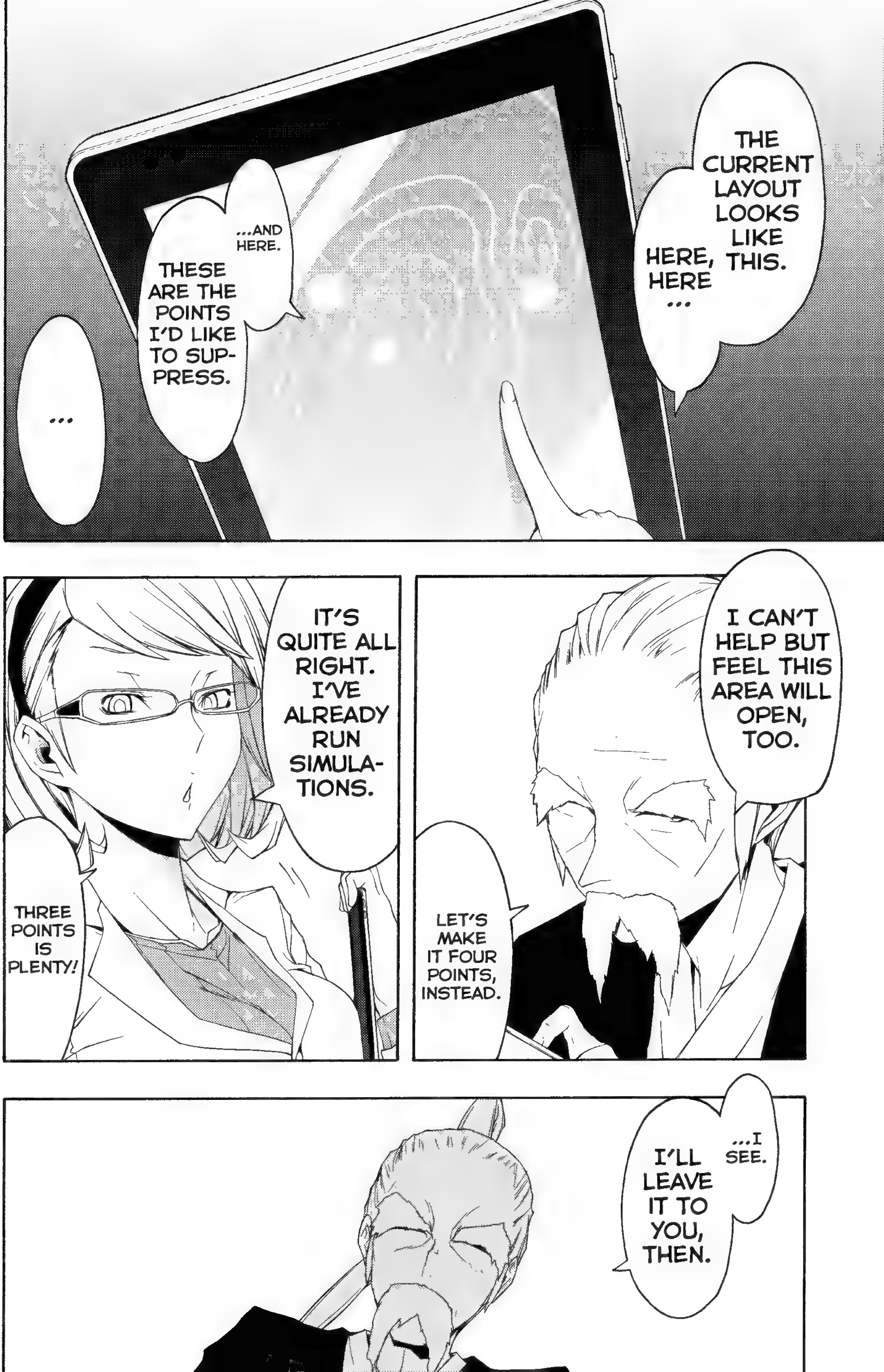

WHY THE SHRINE MAIDEN OUTFIT?
HEH.
YOU'VE GOTTEN OLD, JINROKU.
POP
HE'S THE SENATE'S...
HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN, I WONDER?
AH, SHUT YER TRAP.
THAT GOES FOR THE BOTH OF US, USUZUMI.
IT SURE IS LIVELY UP HERE.
HM? SHIDARE ISN'T HERE YET?
HUH? HE'S COMING?
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM.
EVER THE DAWDLER, THAT MAN...

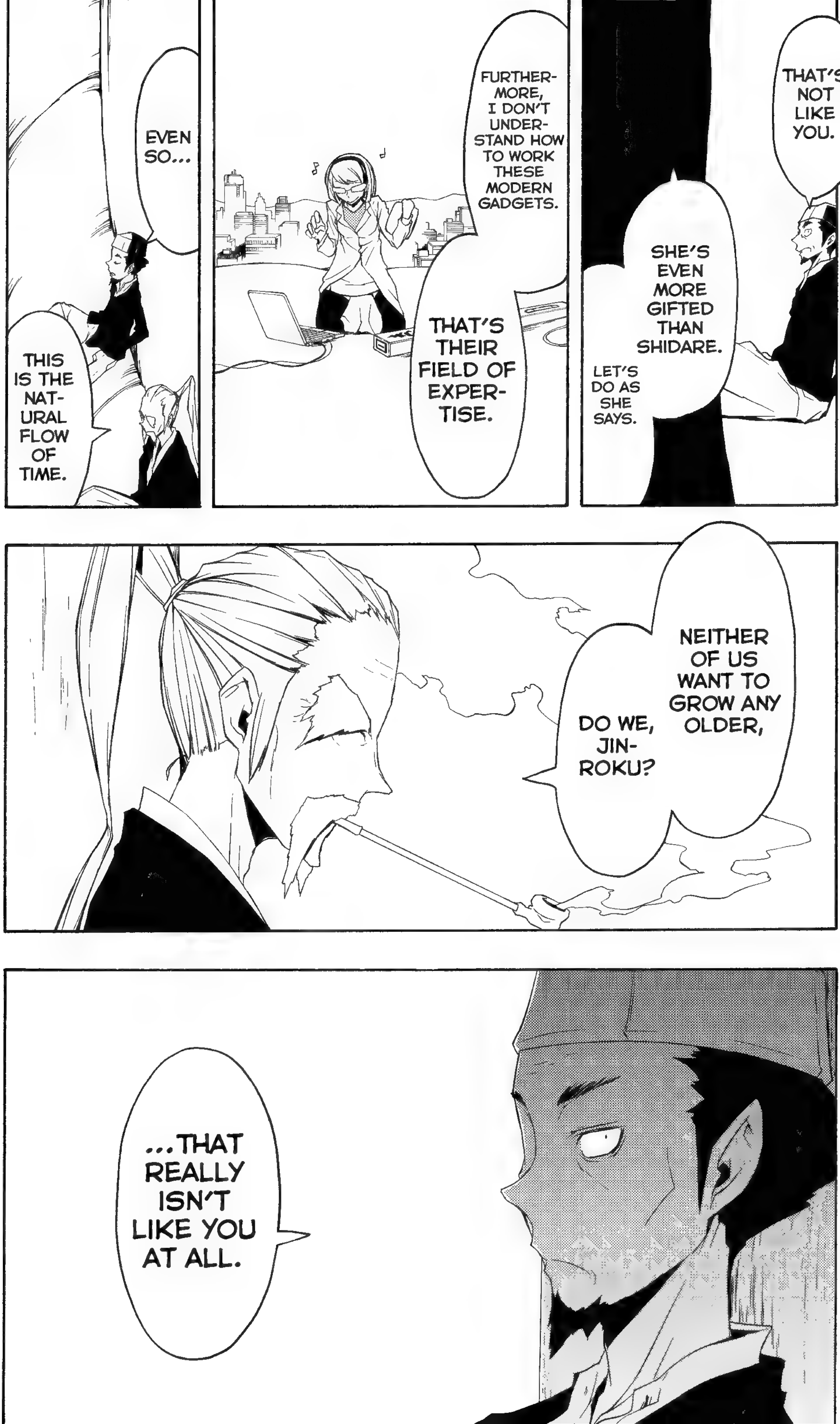

WELL,
THIS IS A PICKLE. I DON'T HAVE THE WEATHER MAP FOR THIS MORNING.
WEATHER MAP?
IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE THE WEATHER WILL BE NICE TODAY.
I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE REGULAR WEATHER.
REGARDING THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THIS REALM AND THE NEXT.
THERE ARE BOTH STRONG…
…AND WEAK POINTS…
…WHICH CHANGE MOMENT TO MOMENT, DAY BY DAY. THE "WEATHER MAP" ALLOWS US TO SEE HOW.
JUST AS WATER FLOWS FROM HIGH TO LOW POINTS,
THE SAME GOES FOR THE FLOW OF *PRESSURE* OF THE DIMENSIONS.
IF LEFT ALONE, THEY WILL BALANCE OUT TO AN EXTENT…

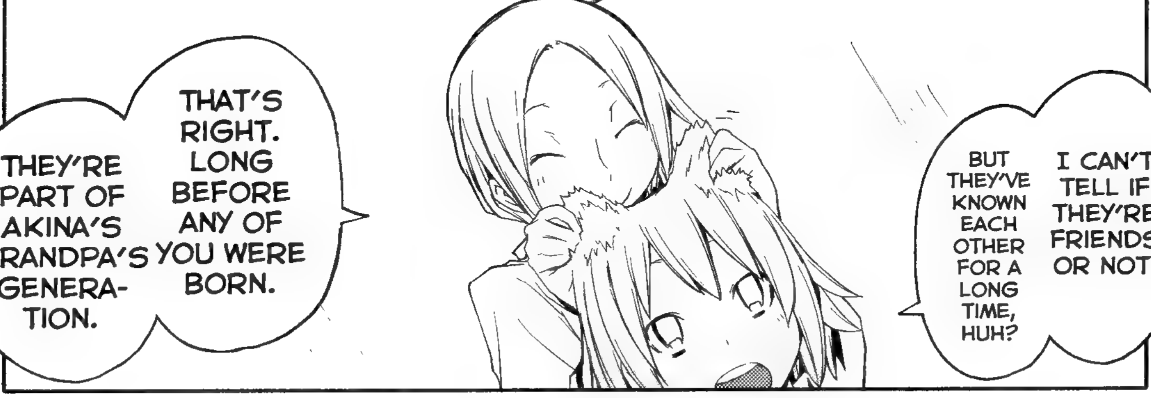

...BUT EVERY TIME THEY DO, SOMEONE SHOWS UP AND TEARS OPEN THE RIFT AGAIN.
!
I SWEAR, THAT BOTHERSOME, SPECTACLED FOX...
BOTHERSOME...
WELL ほろり
...?
はろはろ SOB SOB
AAH! SHE'S CRYING!
YOU MADE HER CRY! YOU MADE HER CRY!
WH- WHAT?
WHAT DID I...?
...
!

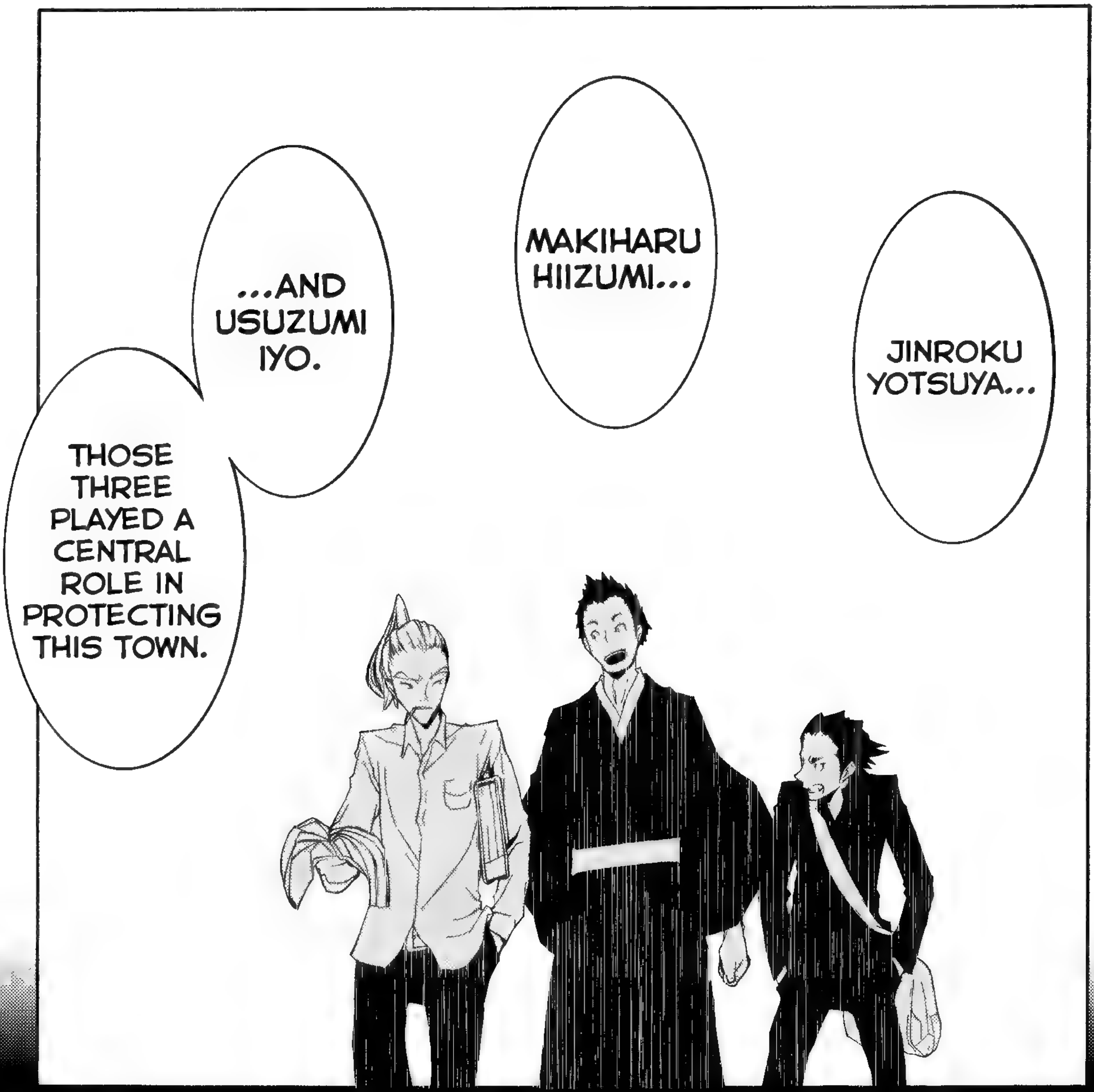

I SEE...
YOU'RE GIN NANAMI'S...
ぐす SNIFF
ぐす SNIFF
SHE SURE HAS GROWN.
しみじみ SHUFFLE
YOOOU MADE HER CRY!
PIPE DOWN!
コン CONK
I'M NOT SPEAKING OF GIN,
ONLY OF THAT REPUGNANT ENJIN.
SORRY...
I KNOW...
ごす RUB

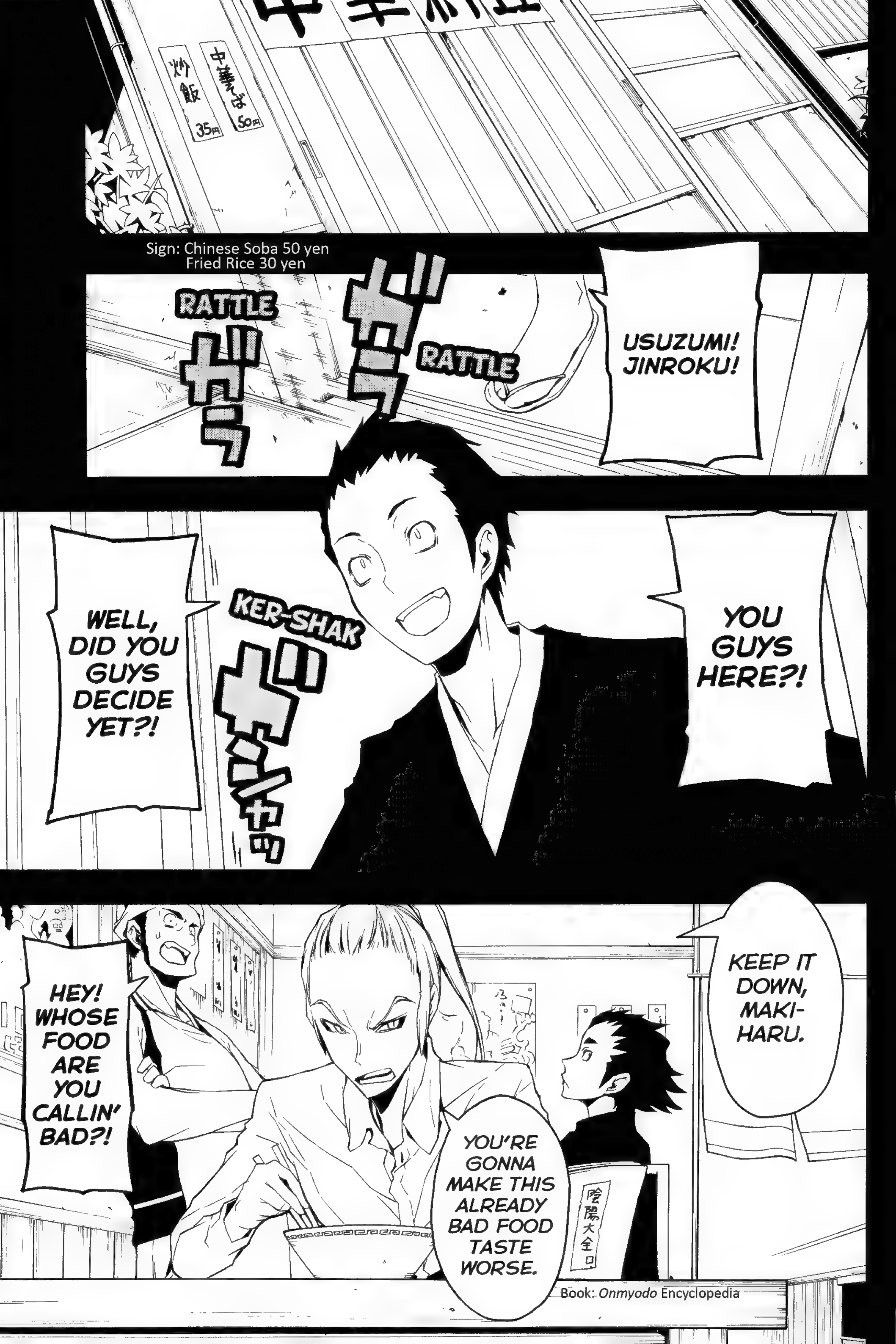

HOW COULD YOU MAKE A LITTLE GIRL CRY, REPRESENTATIVE?
POKE
GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE.
OH, DIRECTOR SHIDARE ISN'T HERE YET?
INDEED.
WELL, I BROUGHT THE WEATHER MAP WITH ME.
I'LL JUST CARRY THINGS OUT MYSELF.
BEEP
HMM.
YES, LET'S GET ON WITH IT.
CARRY THINGS OUT?
WHAT ARE THEY DOING?
THEY'RE GOING TO READ THE WEATHER MAP AND DETERMINE WHERE THE BIGGEST DISPLACEMENTS ARE SO THEY CAN STABILIZE THEM.
WITH ONMYODO?
THAT'S RIGHT.
IT'S ONE OF THE SENATE'S IMPORTANT DUTIES.


THE CURRENT LAYOUT LOOKS LIKE THIS.
HERE, HERE ...
...AND HERE.
THESE ARE THE POINTS I'D LIKE TO SUPPRESS.
...
I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL THIS AREA WILL OPEN, TOO.
LET'S MAKE IT FOUR POINTS, INSTEAD.
IT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT. I'VE ALREADY RUN SIMULATIONS.
THREE POINTS IS PLENTY!
...I SEE.
I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, THEN.


THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU.
SHE'S EVEN MORE GIFTED THAN SHIDARE.
LET'S DO AS SHE SAYS.
FURTHERMORE, I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW TO WORK THESE MODERN GADGETS.
THAT'S THEIR FIELD OF EXPERTISE.
EVEN SO...
THIS IS THE NATURAL FLOW OF TIME.
NEITHER OF US WANT TO GROW ANY OLDER,
DO WE, JINROKU?
...THAT REALLY ISN'T LIKE YOU AT ALL.

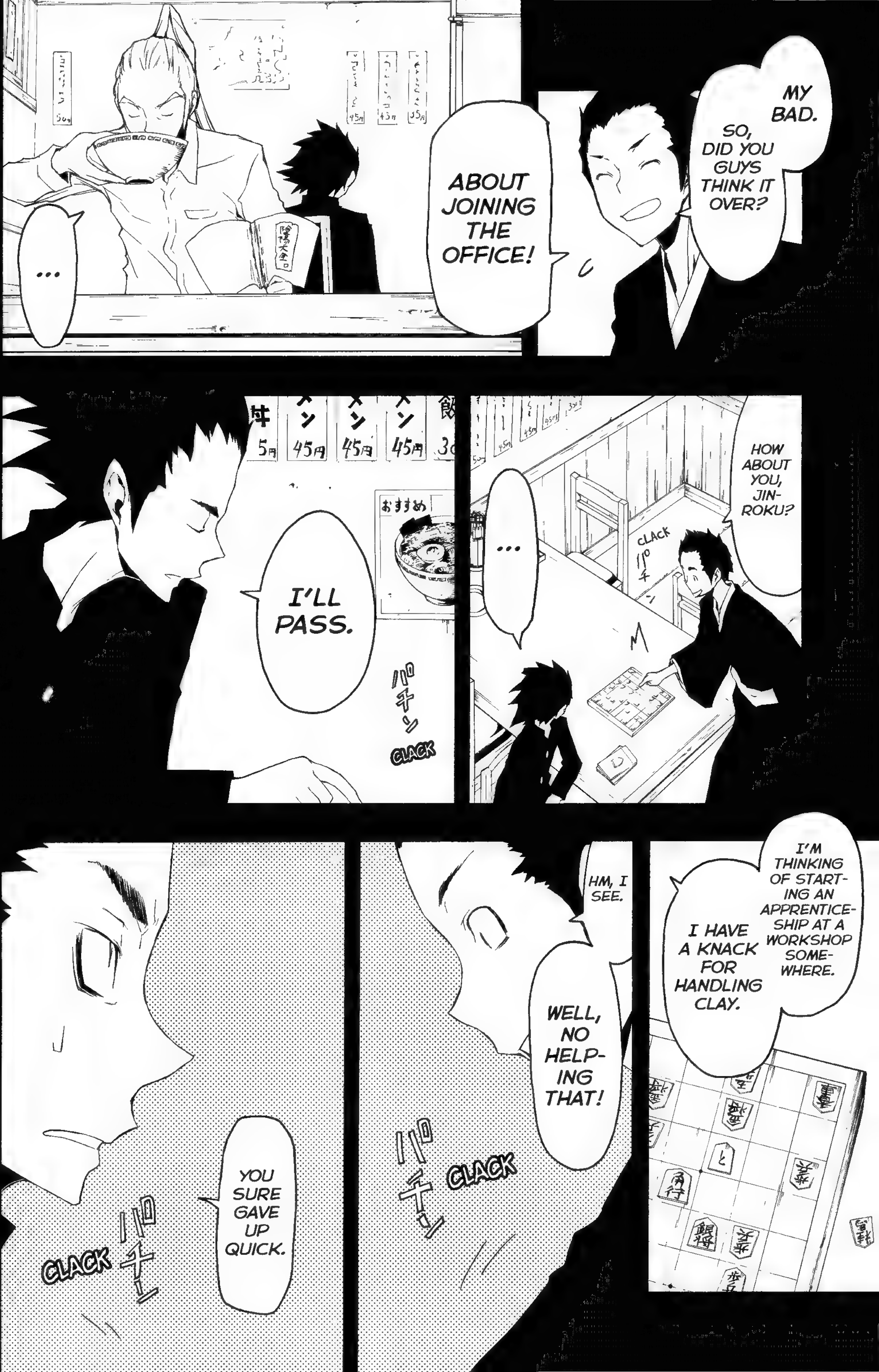

I CAN'T TELL IF THEY'RE FRIENDS OR NOT,
BUT THEY'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR A LONG TIME, HUH?
THAT'S RIGHT. LONG BEFORE ANY OF YOU WERE BORN.
THEY'RE PART OF AKINA'S GRANDPA'S GENERATION.

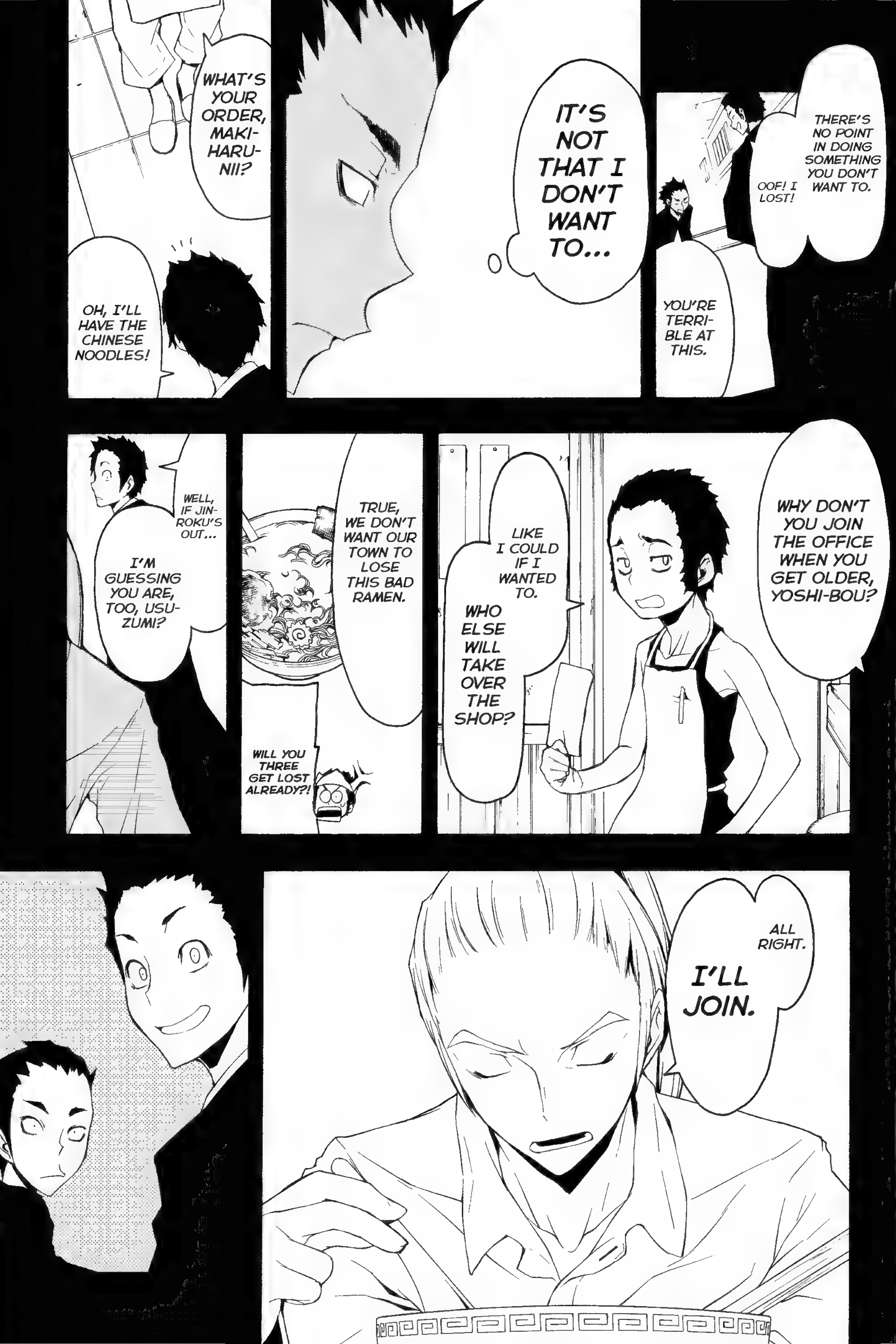

JINROKU YOTSUYA...
MAKIHARU HIIZUMI...
...AND USUZUMI IYO.
THOSE THREE PLAYED A CENTRAL ROLE IN PROTECTING THIS TOWN.

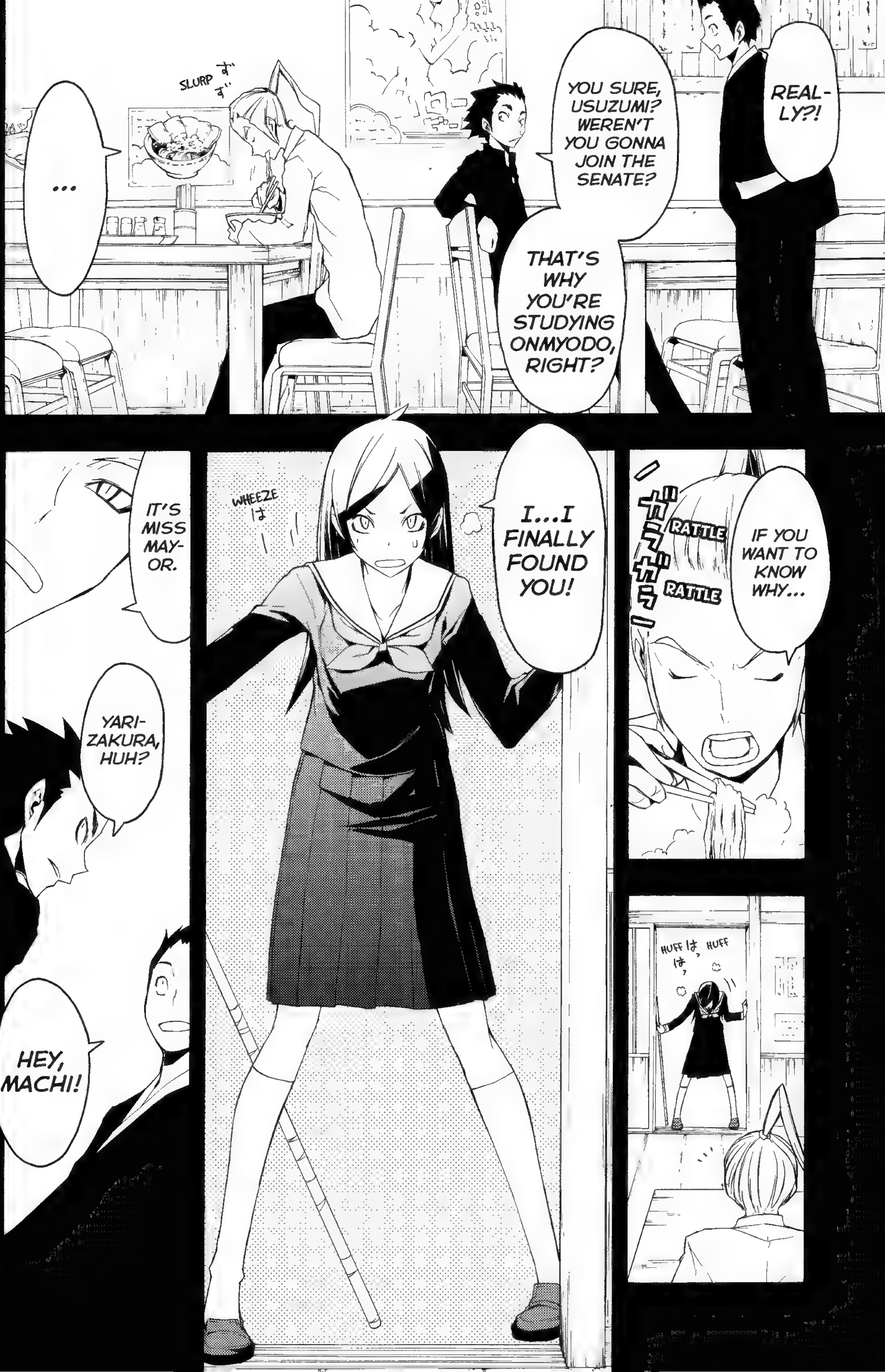

中華そば 50円
炒飯 35円
RATTLE
ガラ
RATTLE
ガラ
USUZUMI! JINROKU!
YOU GUYS HERE?!
KER-SHAK
ガシャッ
WELL, DID YOU GUYS DECIDE YET?!
KEEP IT DOWN, MAKIHARU.
YOU'RE GONNA MAKE THIS ALREADY BAD FOOD TASTE WORSE.
HEY! WHOSE FOOD ARE YOU CALLIN' BAD?!
陰陽大全

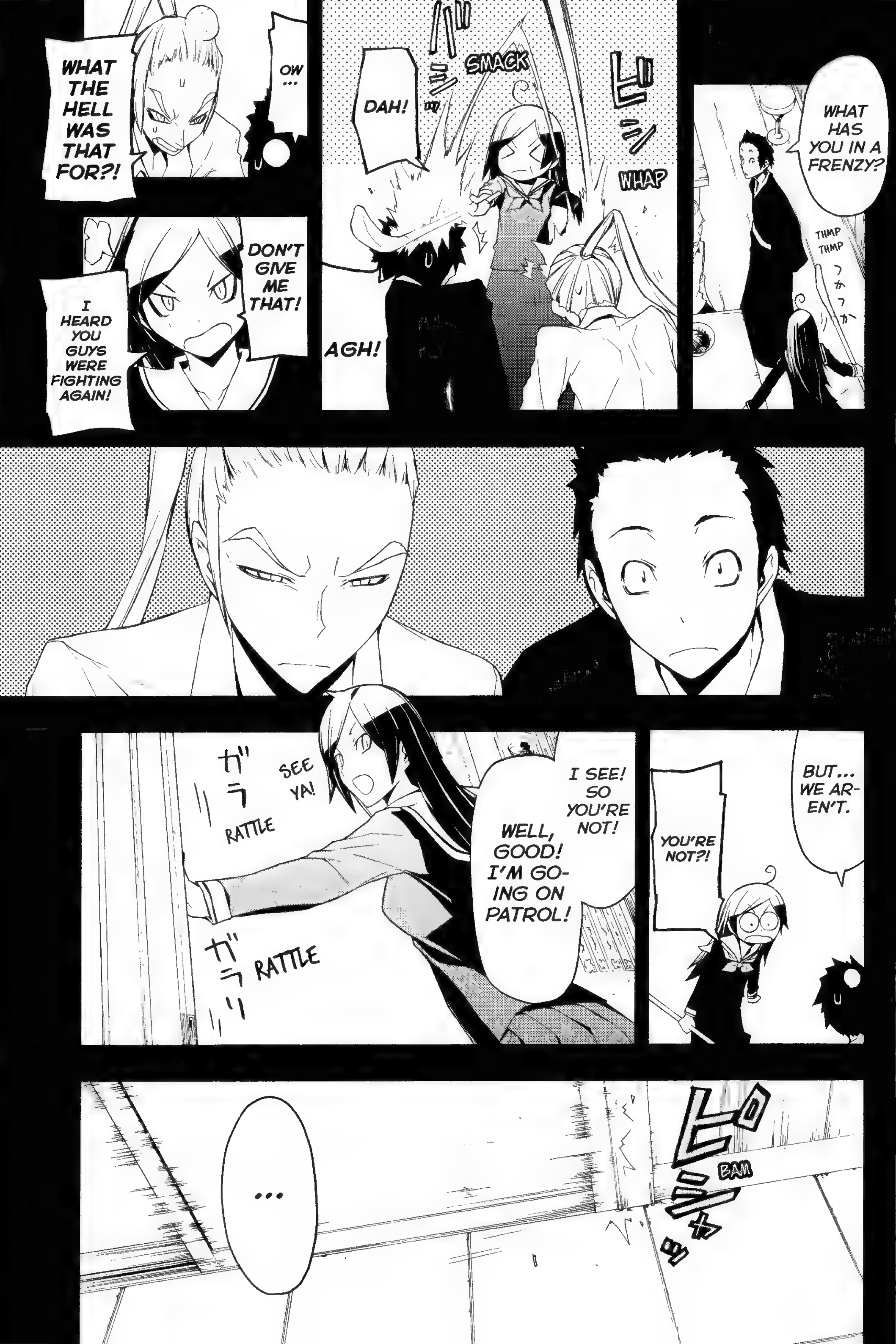
Sign: Chinese Soba 50 yen
Fried Rice 30 yen

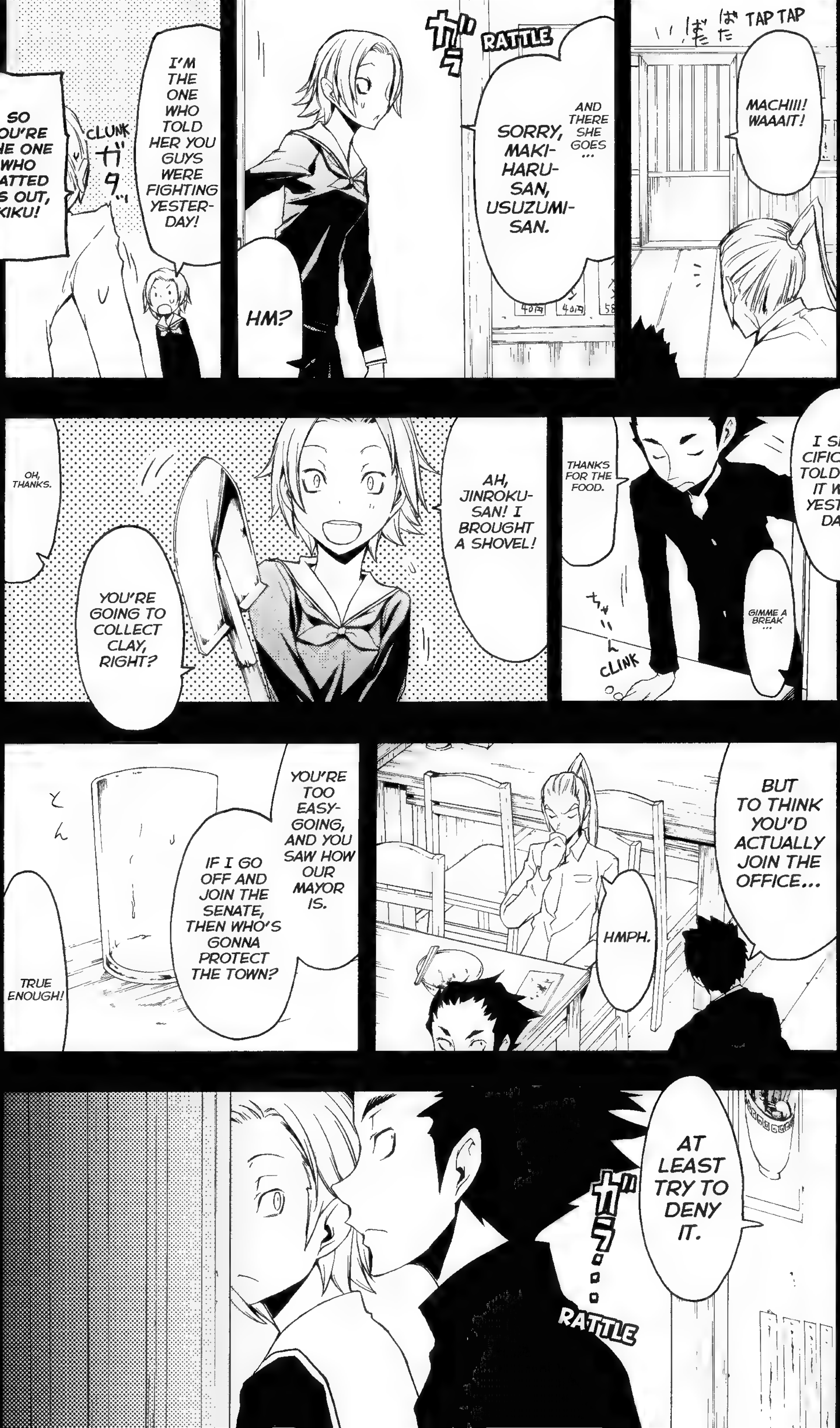
Book: *Onmyodo* Encyclopedia

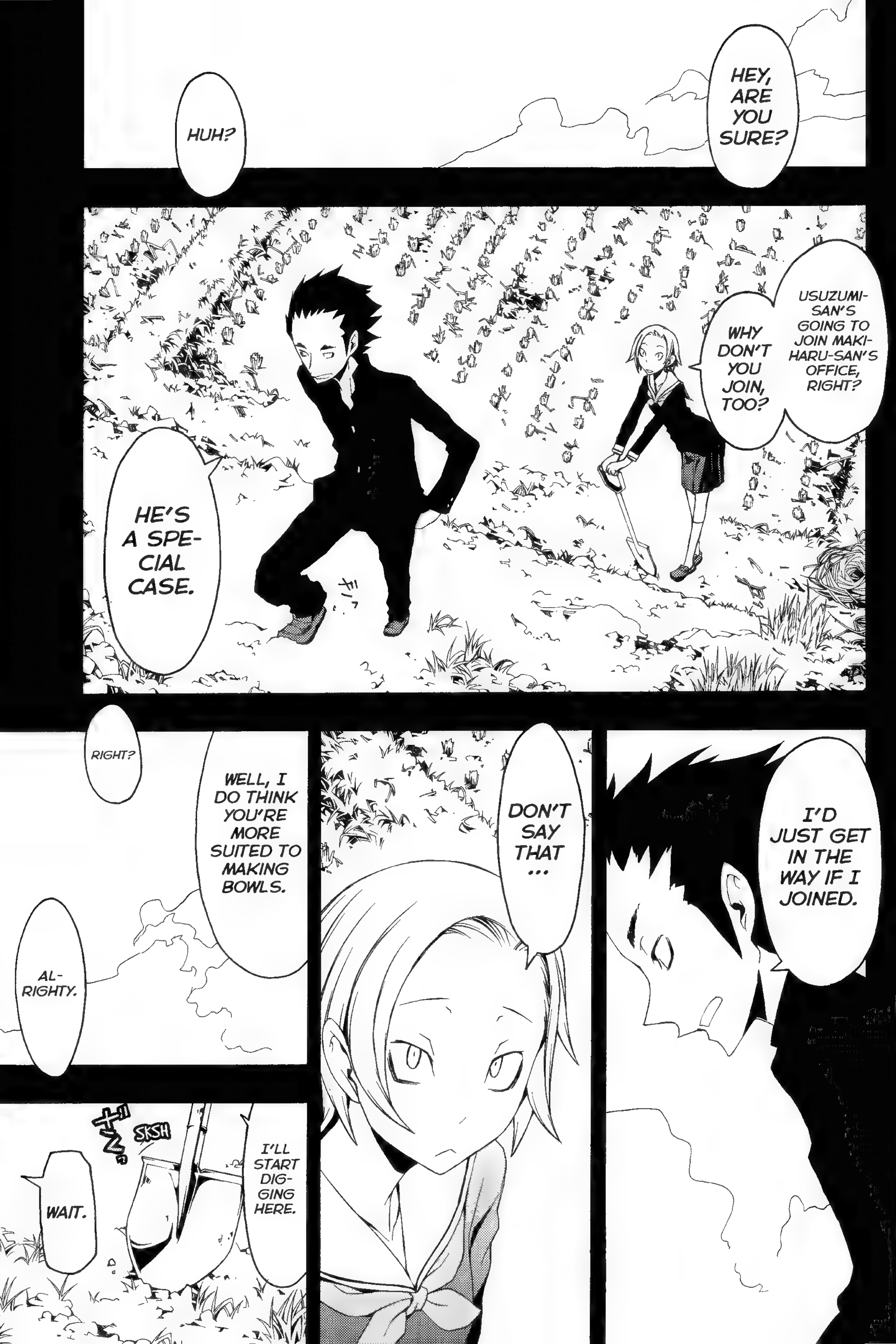

MY BAD.
SO, DID YOU GUYS THINK IT OVER?
ABOUT JOINING THE OFFICE!
...
HOW ABOUT YOU, JIN-ROKU?
CLACK パチ
...
I'LL PASS.
おすすめ
パチン CLACK
I'M THINKING OF STARTING AN APPRENTICESHIP AT A WORKSHOP SOMEWHERE.
I HAVE A KNACK FOR HANDLING CLAY.
HM, I SEE.
WELL, NO HELPING THAT!
パチン CLACK
YOU SURE GAVE UP QUICK.
パチン CLACK

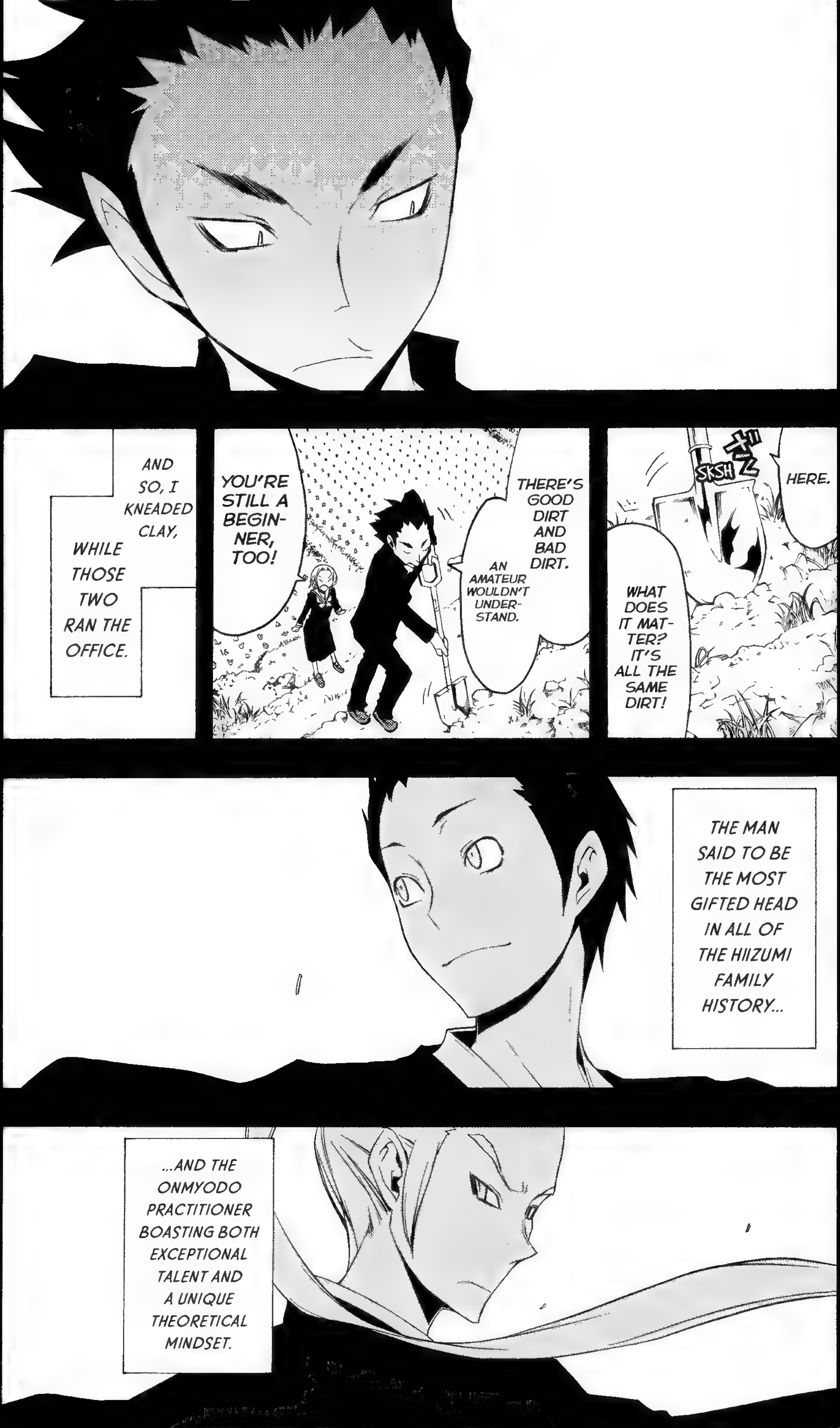

THERE'S NO POINT IN DOING SOMETHING YOU DON'T WANT TO.
OOF! I LOST!
YOU'RE TERRIBLE AT THIS.
IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T WANT TO...
WHAT'S YOUR ORDER, MAKIHARU-NII?
OH, I'LL HAVE THE CHINESE NOODLES!
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE OFFICE WHEN YOU GET OLDER, YOSHI-BOU?
LIKE I COULD IF I WANTED TO.
WHO ELSE WILL TAKE OVER THE SHOP?
TRUE, WE DON'T WANT OUR TOWN TO LOSE THIS BAD RAMEN.
WILL YOU THREE GET LOST ALREADY?!
WELL, IF JINROKU'S OUT...
I'M GUESSING YOU ARE, TOO, USUZUMI?
ALL RIGHT.
I'LL JOIN.

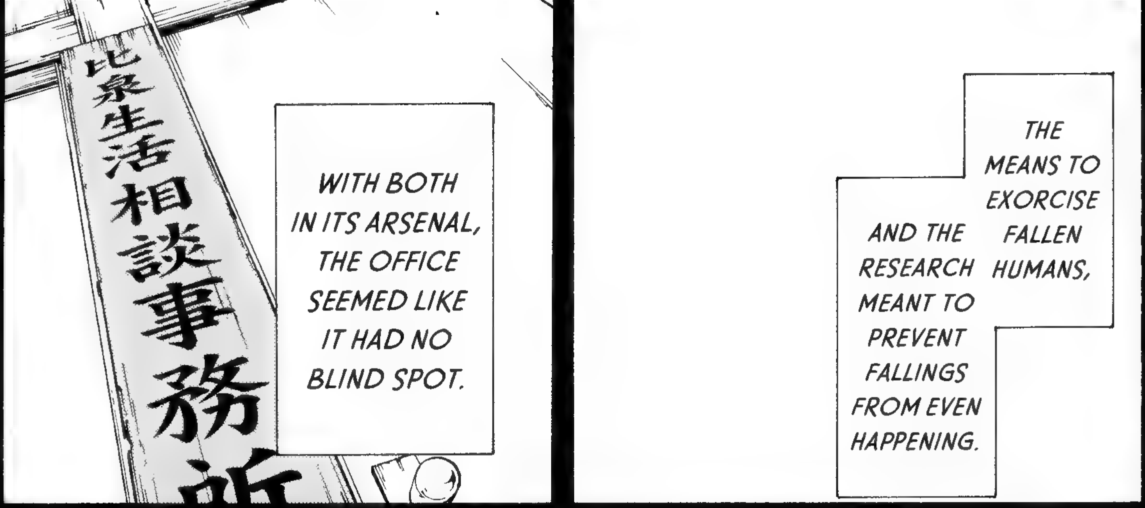

REAL-LY?!
YOU SURE, USUZUMI? WEREN'T YOU GONNA JOIN THE SENATE?
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE STUDYING ONMYODO, RIGHT?
SLURP ずず
...
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY...
ガラッガラッ RATTLE RATTLE
I...I FINALLY FOUND YOU!
WHEEZE は
HUFF は, HUFF は,
IT'S MISS MAY-OR.
YARI-ZAKURA, HUH?
HEY, MACHI!


WHAT HAS YOU IN A FRENZY?
THMP THMP
つかつか
バ
SMACK
DAH!
ビシ
WHAP
AGH!
OW…
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT FOR?!
DON'T GIVE ME THAT!
I HEARD YOU GUYS WERE FIGHTING AGAIN!
BUT… WE AREN'T.
YOU'RE NOT?!
I SEE! SO YOU'RE NOT!
WELL, GOOD! I'M GOING ON PATROL!
SEE YA!
ガラ
RATTLE
ガラリ
RATTLE
…
ピシャッ
BAM

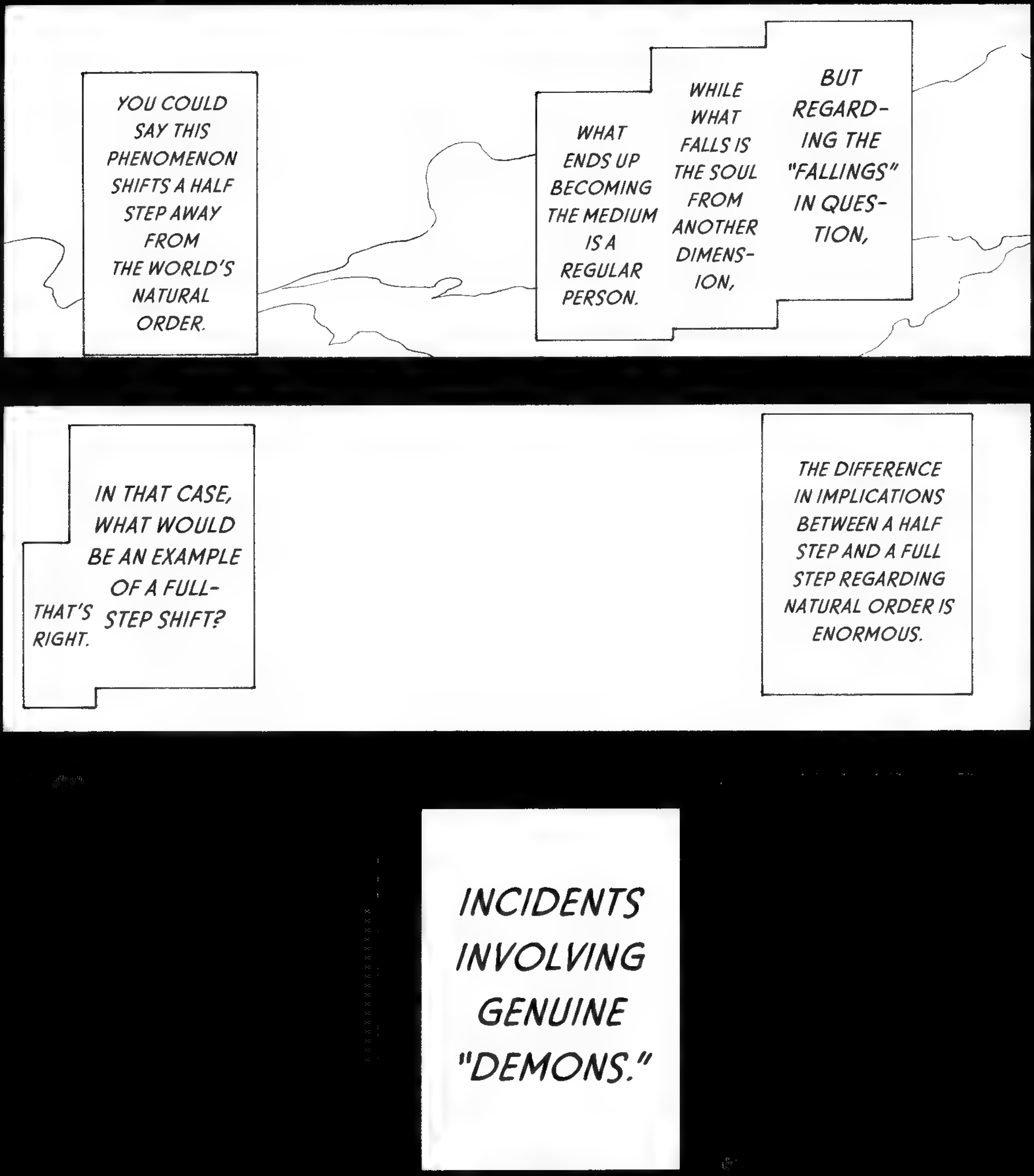

ばたばた TAP TAP
MACHIII! WAAAIT!
ガラ RATTLE
AND THERE SHE GOES...
SORRY, MAKIHARU-SAN, USUZUMI-SAN.
HM?
I'M THE ONE WHO TOLD HER YOU GUYS WERE FIGHTING YESTERDAY!
ガタ CLUNK
SO YOU'RE THE ONE WHO RATTED US OUT, KIKU!
I SPECIFICALLY TOLD HER IT WAS YESTERDAY.
THANKS FOR THE FOOD.
GIMME A BREAK...
ちゃりん CLINK
AH, JINROKU-SAN! I BROUGHT A SHOVEL!
OH, THANKS.
YOU'RE GOING TO COLLECT CLAY, RIGHT?
BUT TO THINK YOU'D ACTUALLY JOIN THE OFFICE...
HMPH.
YOU'RE TOO EASY-GOING, AND YOU SAW HOW OUR MAYOR IS.
IF I GO OFF AND JOIN THE SENATE, THEN WHO'S GONNA PROTECT THE TOWN?
とん
TRUE ENOUGH!
AT LEAST TRY TO DENY IT.
ガラ... RATTLE

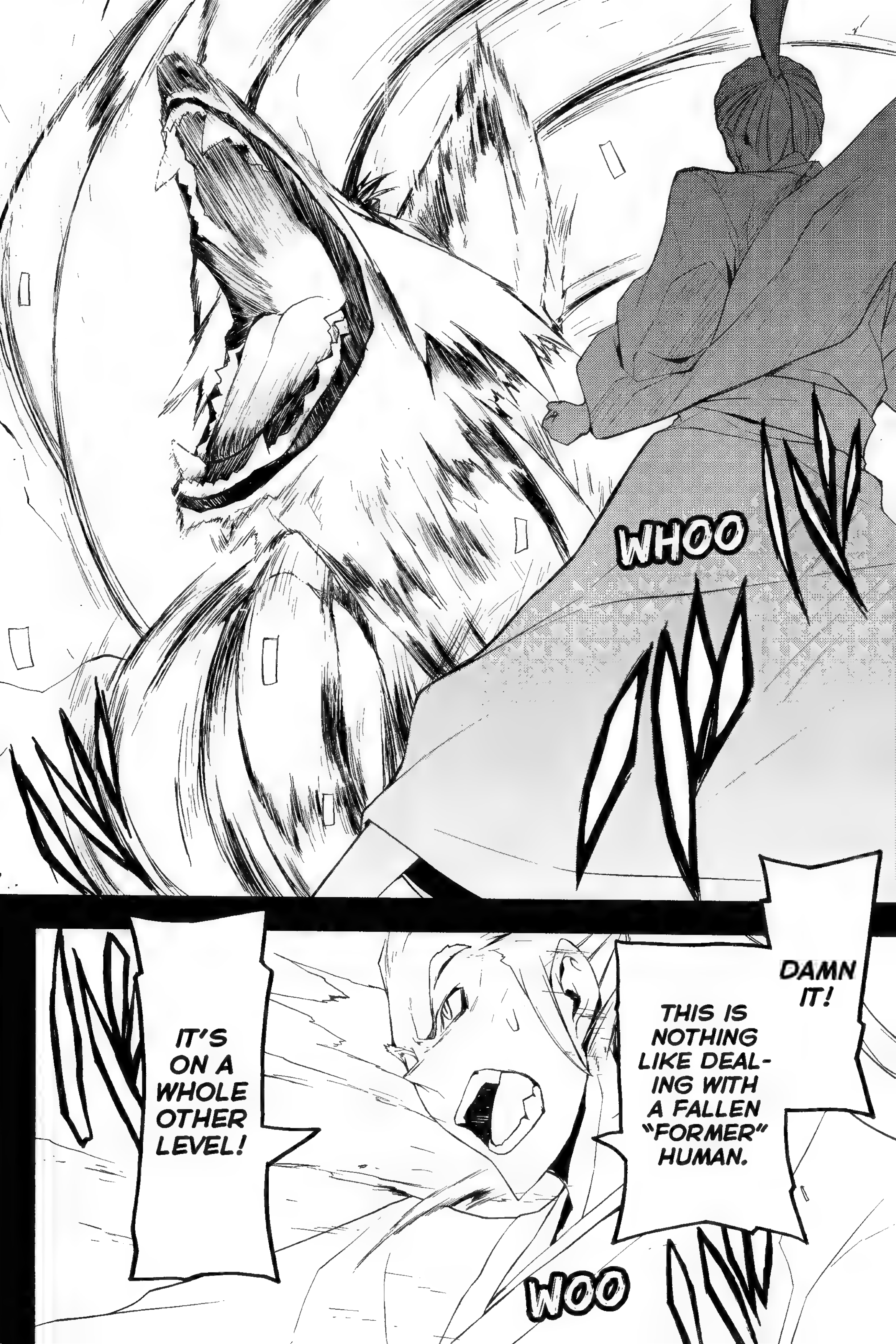

HEY, ARE YOU SURE?
HUH?
USUZUMI-SAN'S GOING TO JOIN MAKI-HARU-SAN'S OFFICE, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN, TOO?
HE'S A SPECIAL CASE.
I'D JUST GET IN THE WAY IF I JOINED.
DON'T SAY THAT ...
WELL, I DO THINK YOU'RE MORE SUITED TO MAKING BOWLS.
RIGHT?
ALRIGHTY.
I'LL START DIGGING HERE.
SKSH
WAIT.

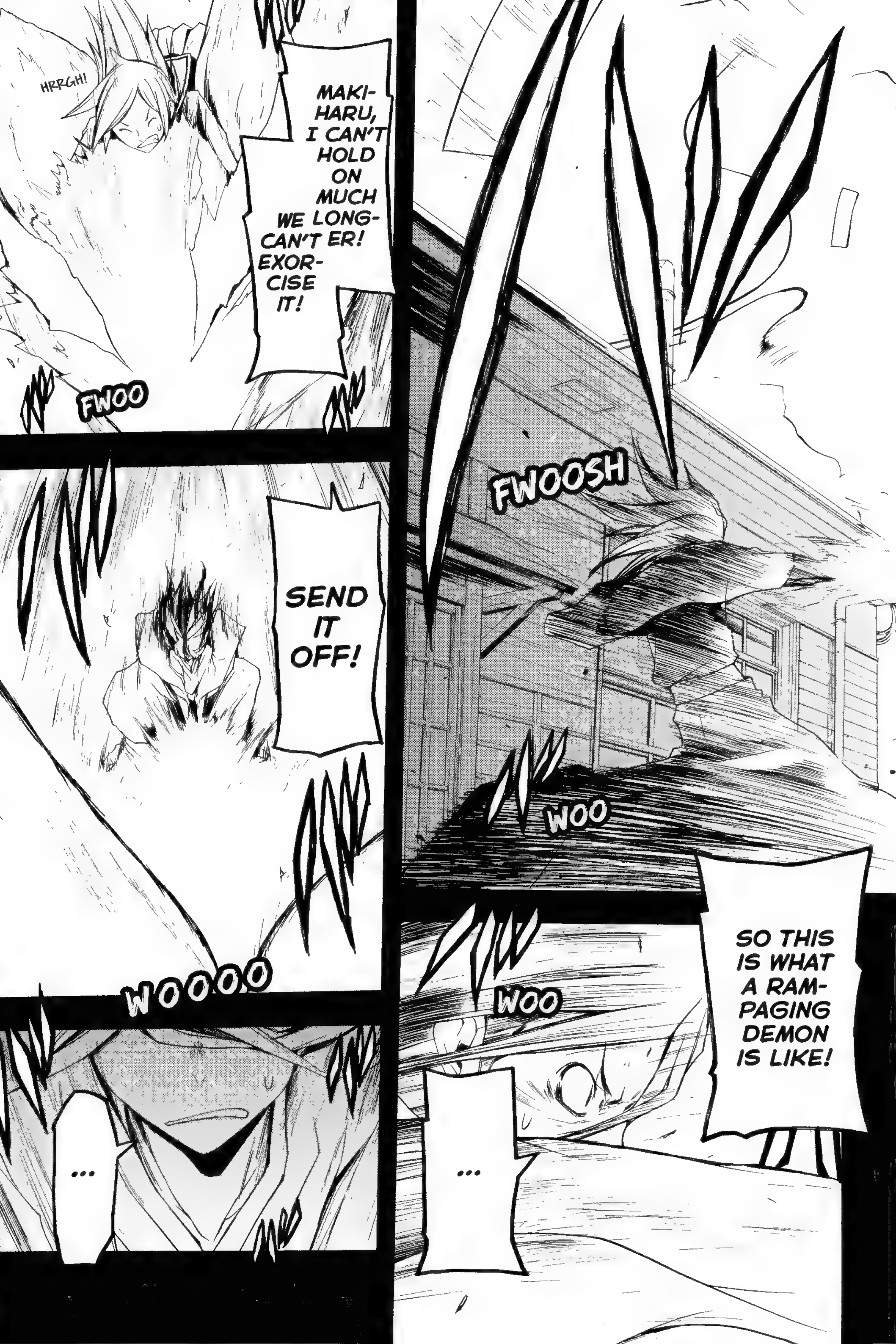

HERE.
SKSH
WHAT DOES IT MATTER? IT'S ALL THE SAME DIRT!
THERE'S GOOD DIRT AND BAD DIRT.
AN AMATEUR WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.
YOU'RE STILL A BEGINNER, TOO!
AND SO, I KNEADED CLAY,
WHILE THOSE TWO RAN THE OFFICE.
THE MAN SAID TO BE THE MOST GIFTED HEAD IN ALL OF THE HIIZUMI FAMILY HISTORY...
...AND THE ONMYODO PRACTITIONER BOASTING BOTH EXCEPTIONAL TALENT AND A UNIQUE THEORETICAL MINDSET.

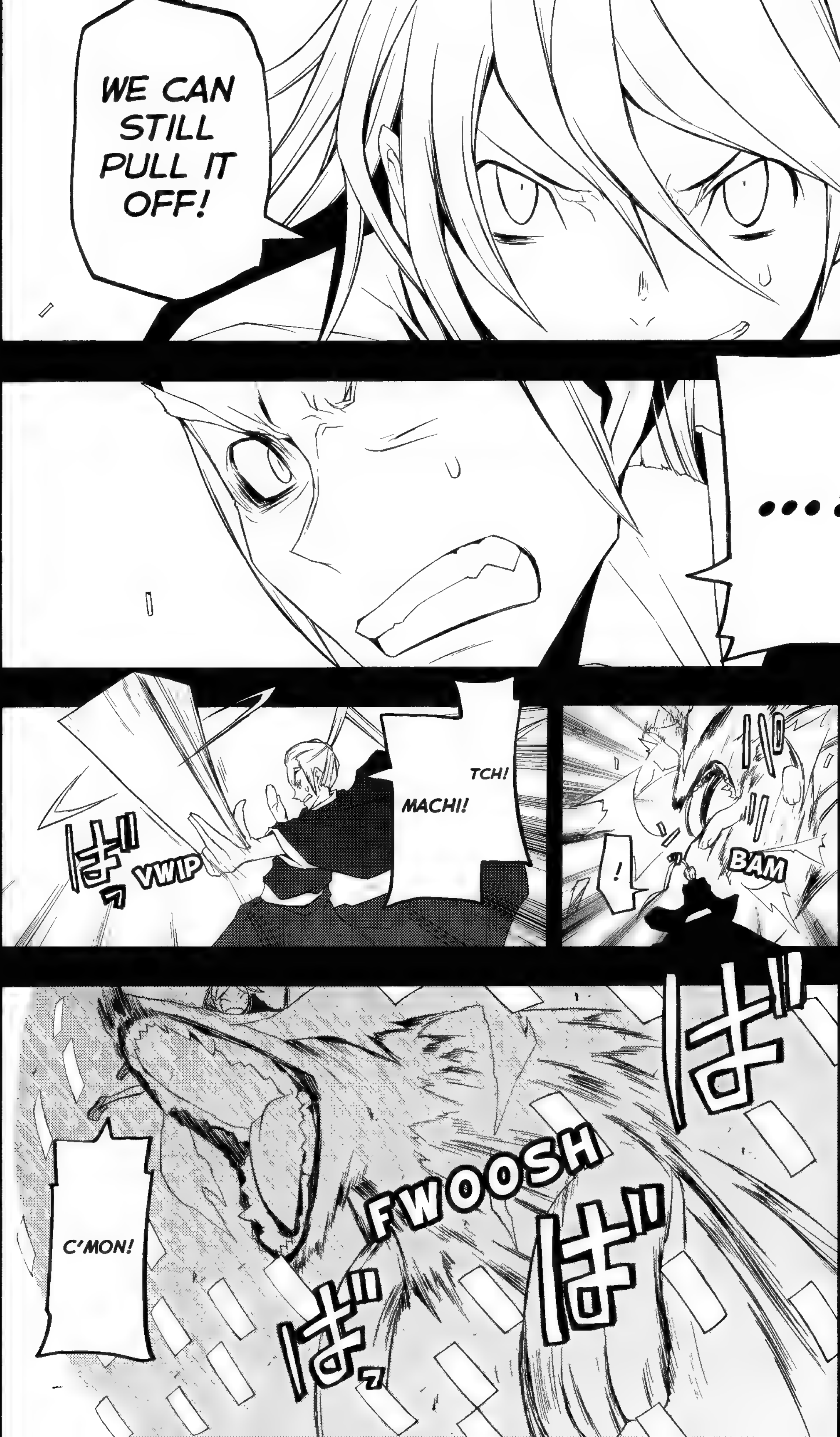

THE MEANS TO EXORCISE FALLEN HUMANS,
AND THE RESEARCH MEANT TO PREVENT FALLINGS FROM EVEN HAPPENING.
比泉生活相談事務
WITH BOTH IN ITS ARSENAL, THE OFFICE SEEMED LIKE IT HAD NO BLIND SPOT.

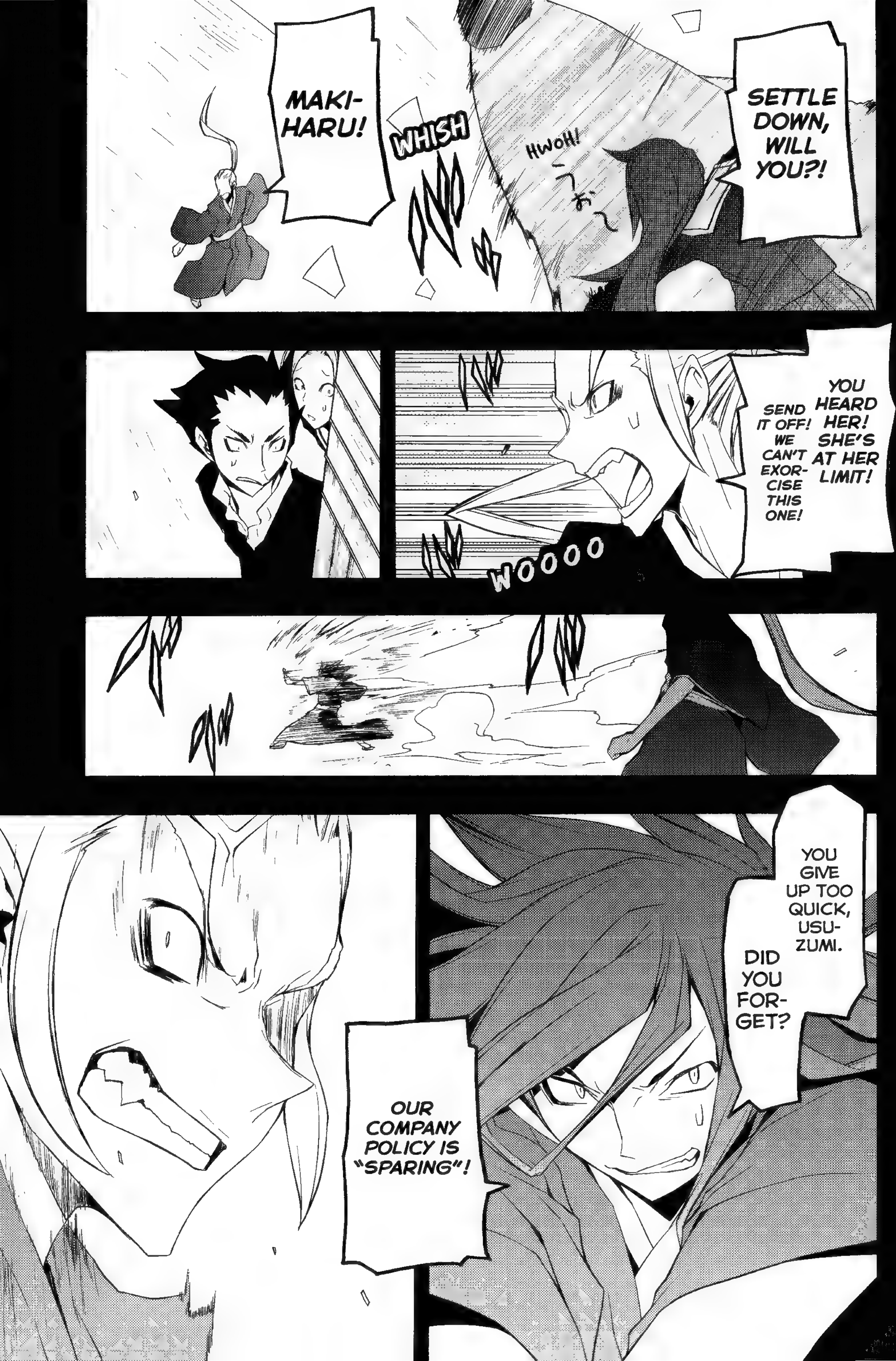
Sign: Hiizumi Life Counseling Office

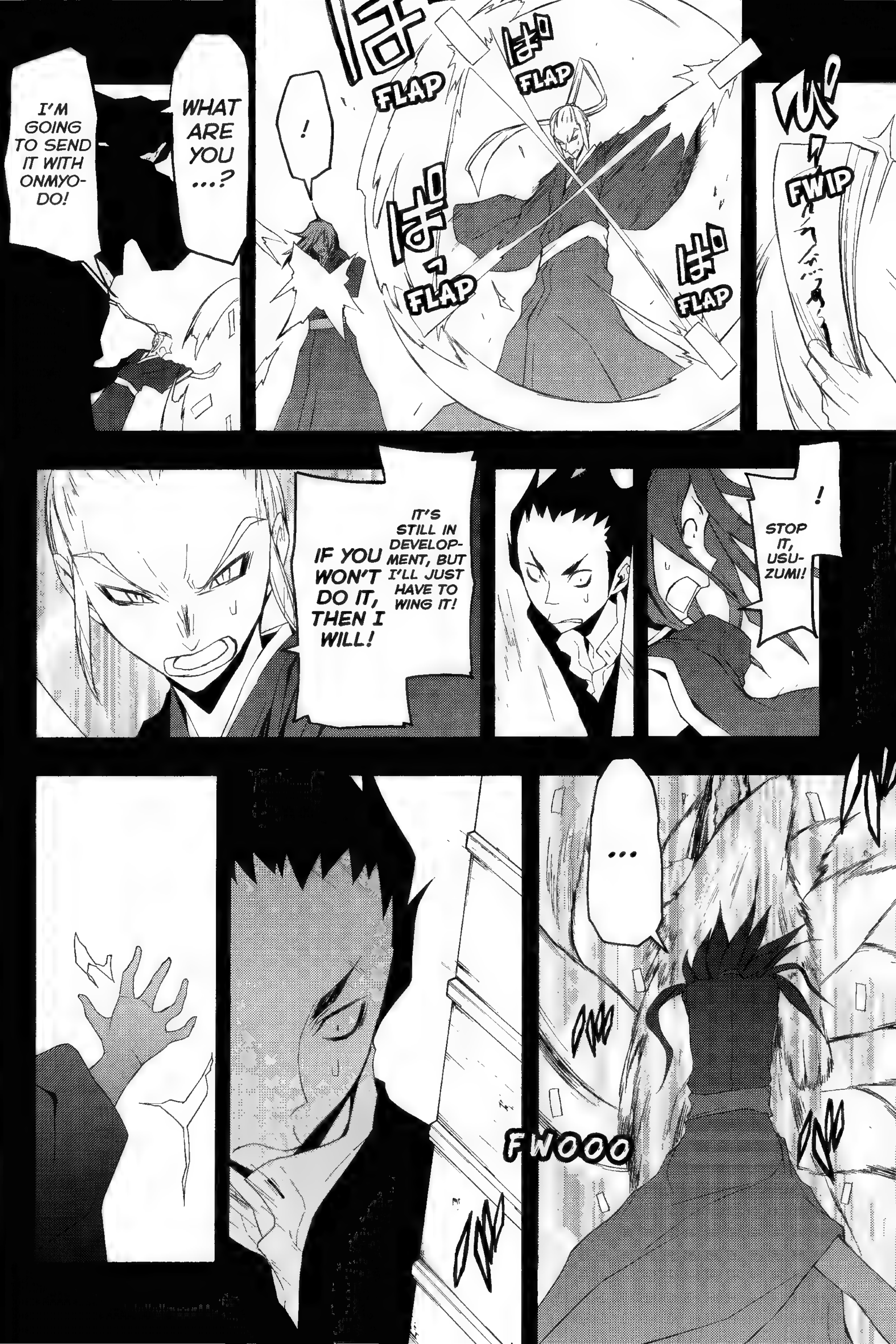

BUT REGARDING THE "FALLINGS" IN QUESTION,
WHILE WHAT FALLS IS THE SOUL FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION,
WHAT ENDS UP BECOMING THE MEDIUM IS A REGULAR PERSON.
YOU COULD SAY THIS PHENOMENON SHIFTS A HALF STEP AWAY FROM THE WORLD'S NATURAL ORDER.
THE DIFFERENCE IN IMPLICATIONS BETWEEN A HALF STEP AND A FULL STEP REGARDING NATURAL ORDER IS ENORMOUS.
IN THAT CASE, WHAT WOULD BE AN EXAMPLE OF A FULL-STEP SHIFT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
INCIDENTS INVOLVING GENUINE "DEMONS."

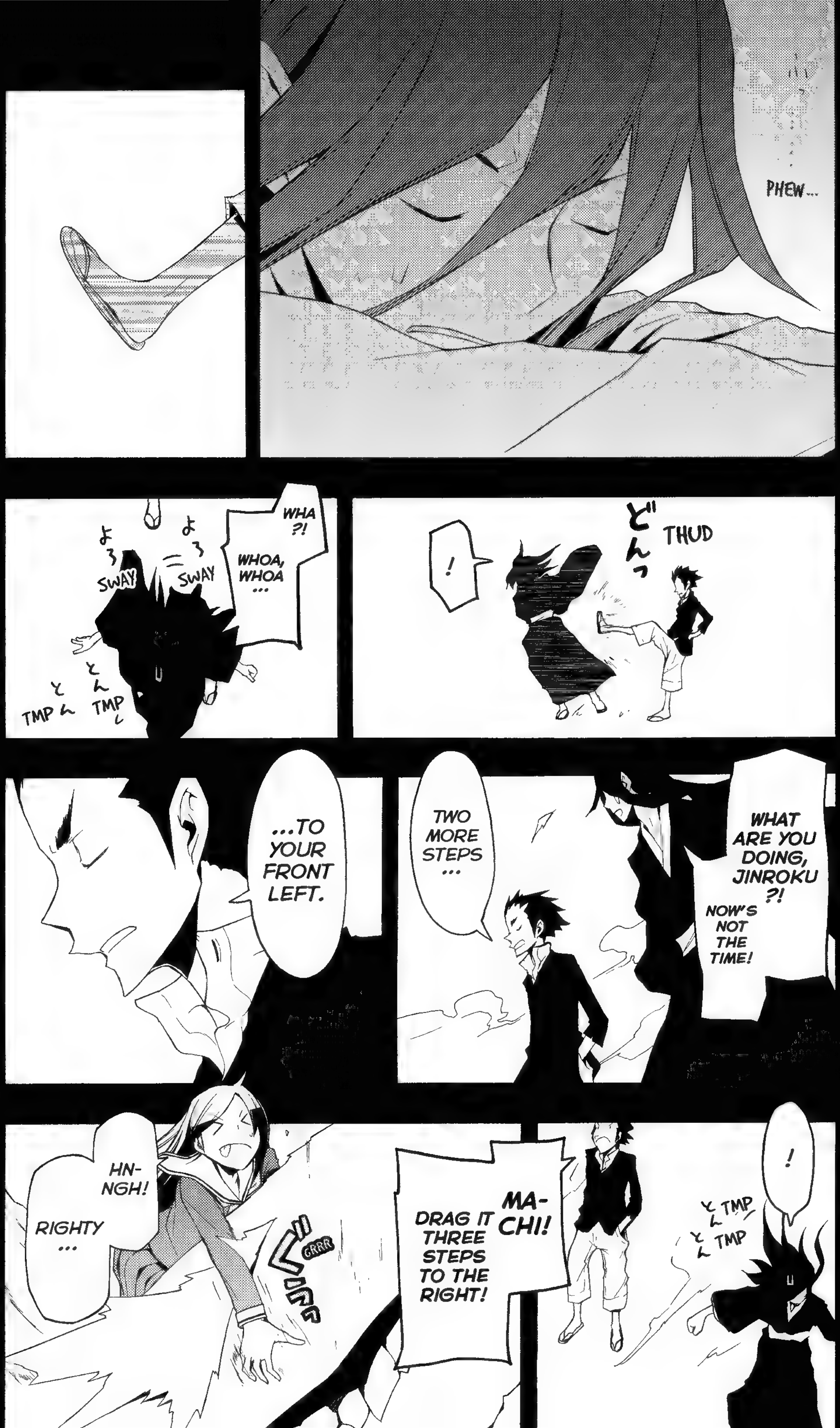

WHOO
DAMN IT!
THIS IS NOTHING LIKE DEALING WITH A FALLEN "FORMER" HUMAN.
IT'S ON A WHOLE OTHER LEVEL!
WOO

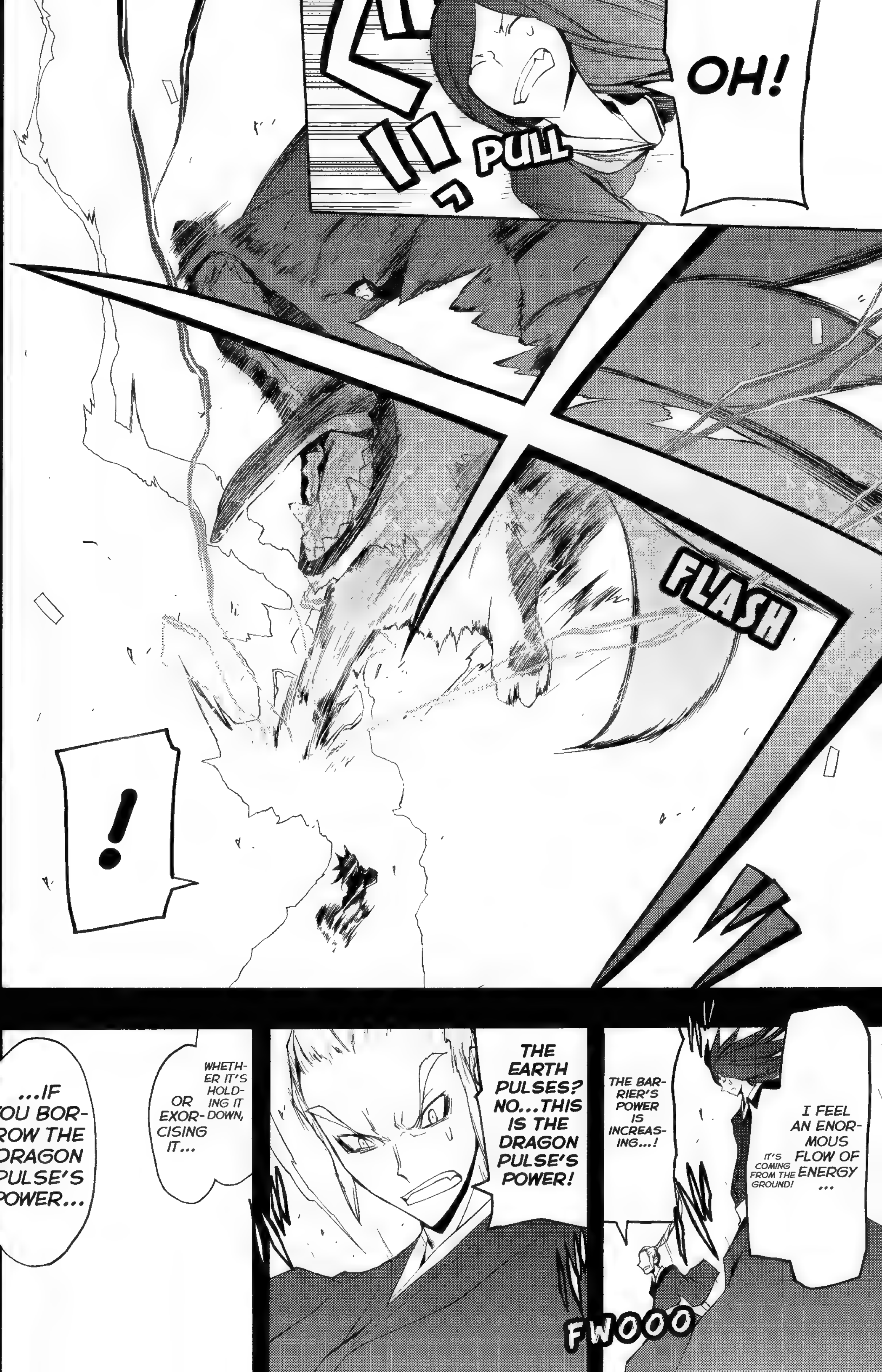

FWOOSH
WOO
HRRGH!
MAKIHARU, I CAN'T HOLD ON MUCH LONGER!
WE CAN'T EXORCISE IT!
FWOO
SEND IT OFF!
WOOOO
WOO
SO THIS IS WHAT A RAMPAGING DEMON IS LIKE!
...
...

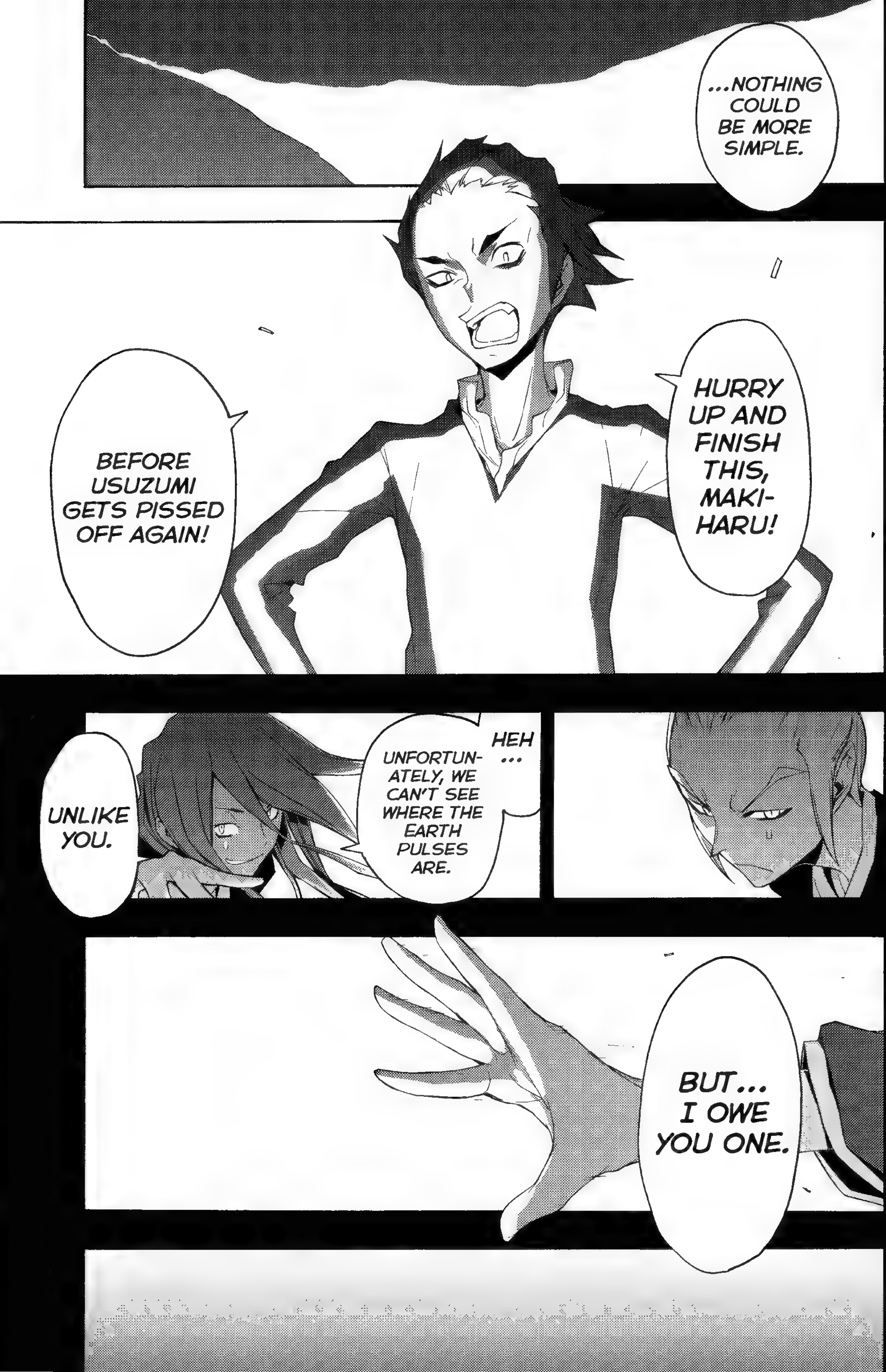

WE CAN STILL PULL IT OFF!
...!
バリ
BAM
!
TCH!
MACHI!
ば
VWIP
ばばば
FWOOSH
C'MON!

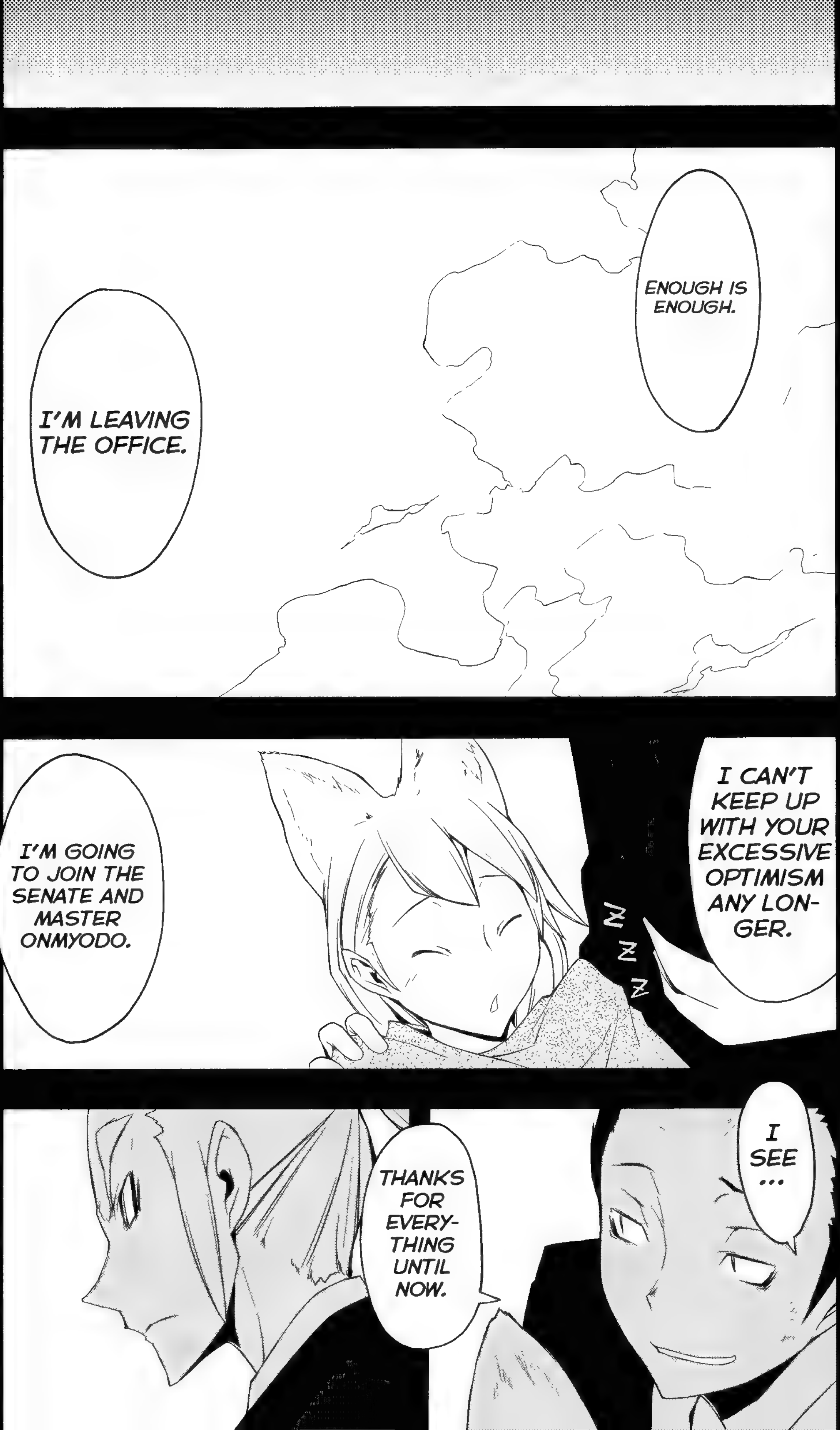

SETTLE DOWN, WILL YOU?!
HWOH!
ーっお〜
WHISH
MAKIHARU!
YOU HEARD HER! SHE'S AT HER LIMIT!
SEND IT OFF! WE CAN'T EXORCISE THIS ONE!
WOOOO
YOU GIVE UP TOO QUICK, USUZUMI.
DID YOU FORGET?
OUR COMPANY POLICY IS "SPARING"!

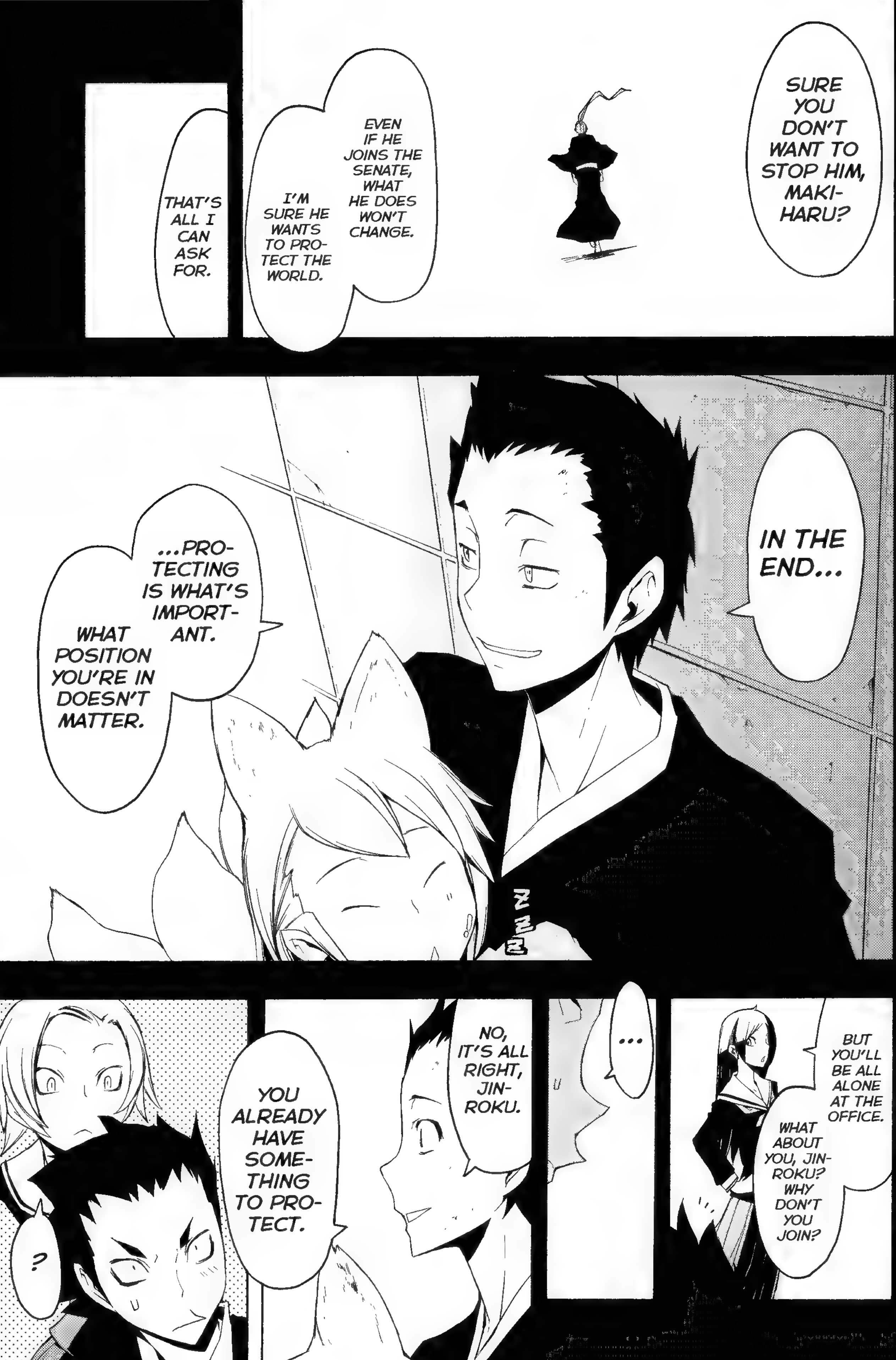

ぴっ
FWIP
ぱ
FLAP
ぱっ
FLAP
ぱっ
FLAP
ぱっ
FLAP
!
WHAT ARE YOU ...?
I'M GOING TO SEND IT WITH ONMYO-DO!
!
STOP IT, USUZUMI!
IF YOU WON'T DO IT, THEN I WILL!
IT'S STILL IN DEVELOPMENT, BUT I'LL JUST HAVE TO WING IT!
...
FWOOO

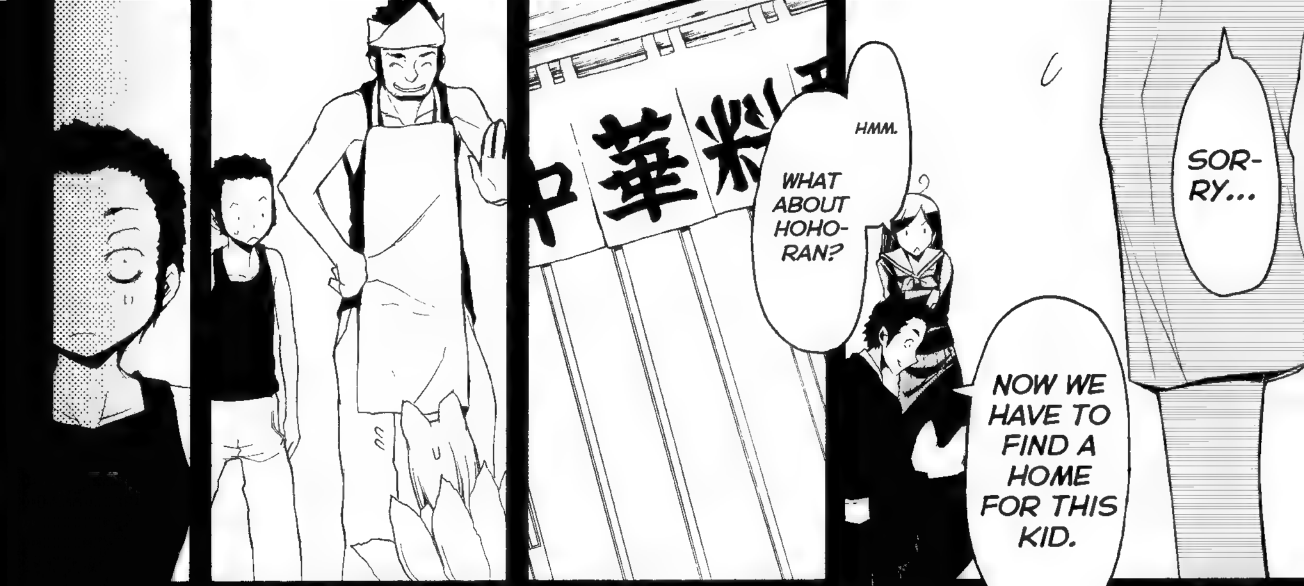

PHEW...
どんっ
THUD
!
WHA?!
WHOA, WHOA...
よろ
SWAY
よろ
SWAY
とん
TMP
とん
TMP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, JINROKU?!
NOW'S NOT THE TIME!
TWO MORE STEPS...
...TO YOUR FRONT LEFT.
!
とん TMP
とん TMP
MA-CHI!
DRAG IT THREE STEPS TO THE RIGHT!
ぐぐっ
GRRR
HN-NGH!
RIGHTY...


OH!
PULL
FLASH
!
I FEEL AN ENORMOUS FLOW OF ENERGY...
IT'S COMING FROM THE GROUND!
THE BARRIER'S POWER IS INCREASING...!
FWOOO
THE EARTH PULSES? NO...THIS IS THE DRAGON PULSE'S POWER!
WHETHER IT'S HOLDING IT DOWN,
OR EXORCISING IT...
...IF YOU BORROW THE DRAGON PULSE'S POWER...

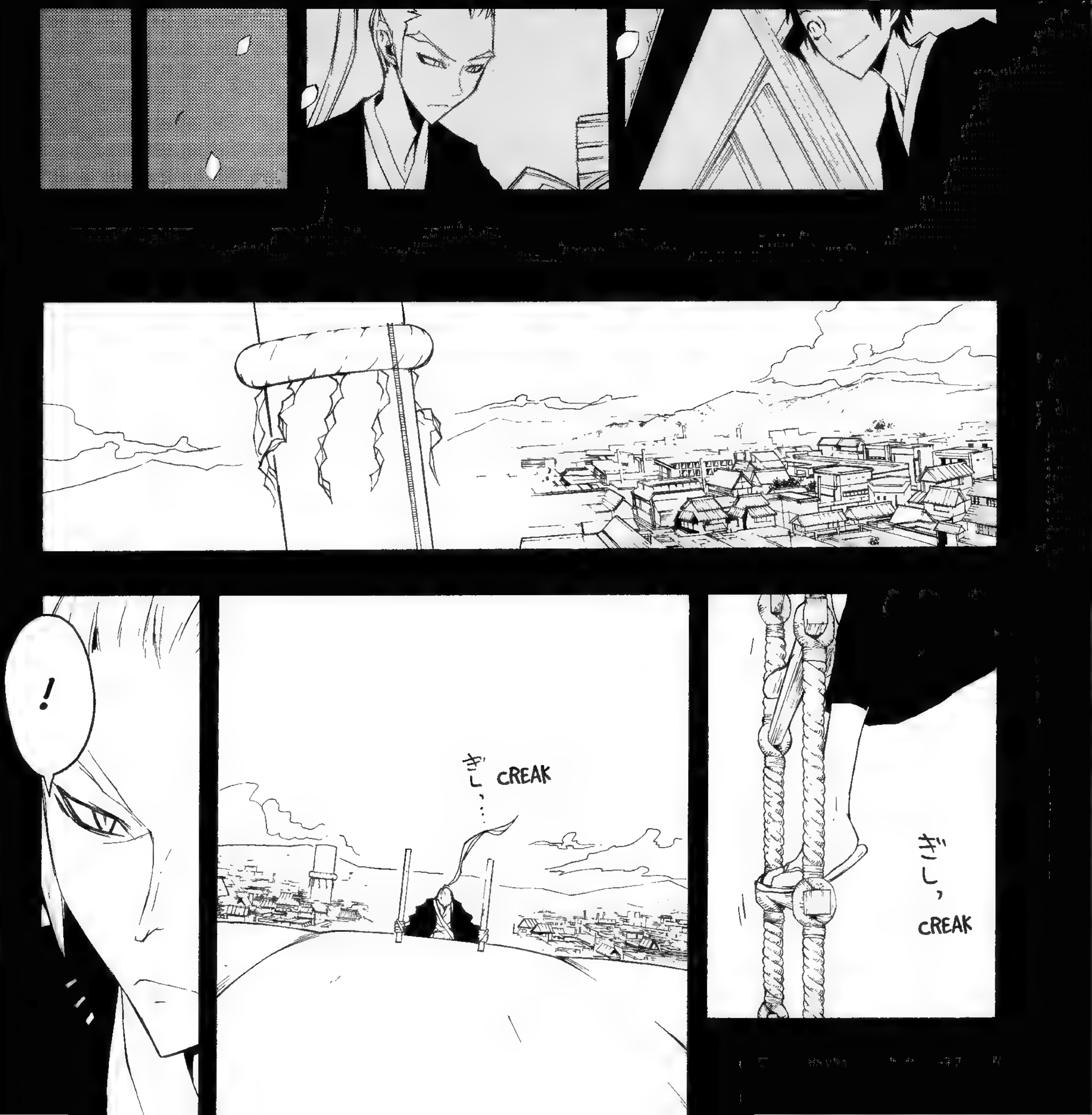

...NOTHING COULD BE MORE SIMPLE.
HURRY UP AND FINISH THIS, MAKI-HARU!
BEFORE USUZUMI GETS PISSED OFF AGAIN!
HEH...
UNFORTUNATELY, WE CAN'T SEE WHERE THE EARTH PULSES ARE.
UNLIKE YOU.
BUT... I OWE YOU ONE.

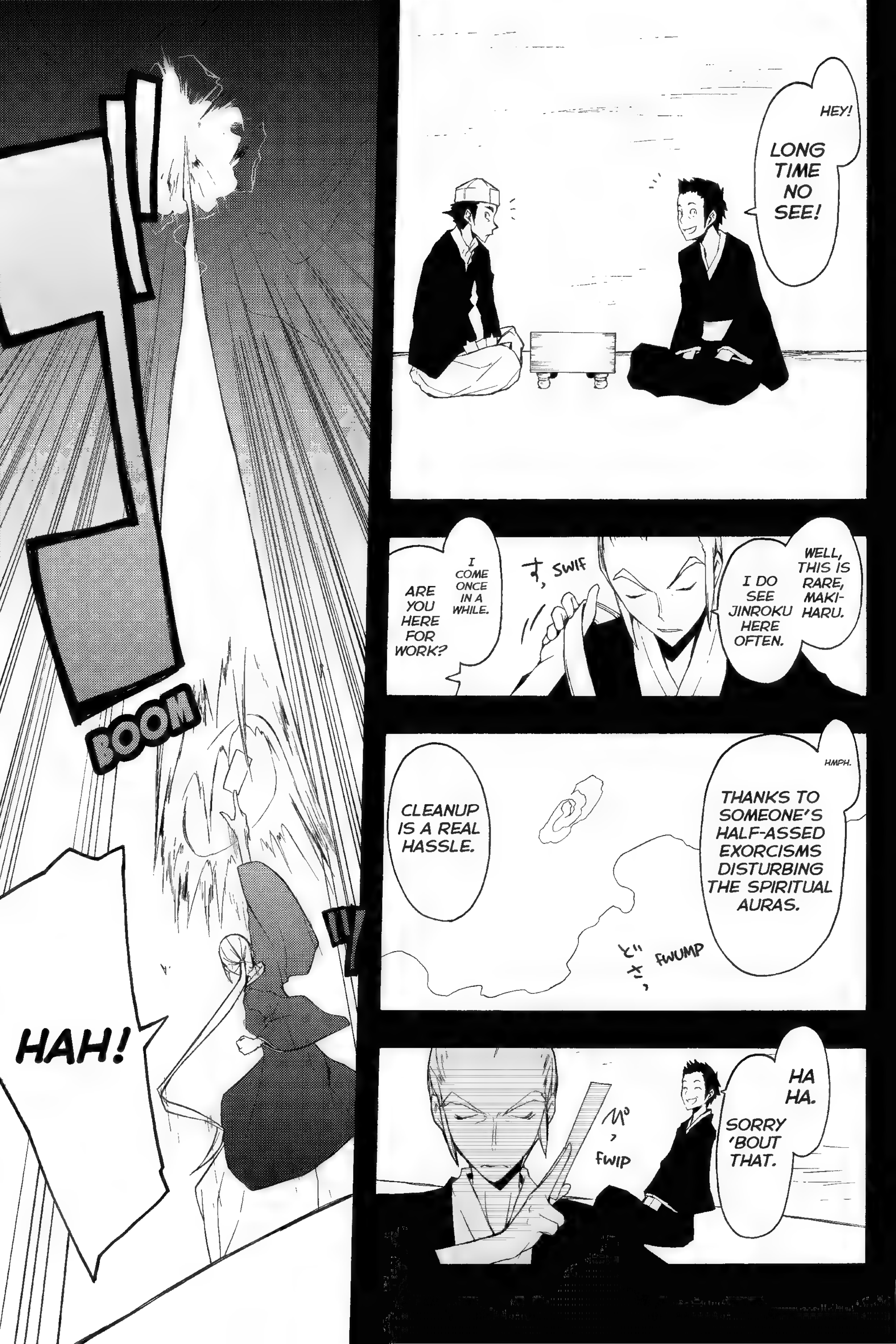

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.
I'M LEAVING THE OFFICE.
I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH YOUR EXCESSIVE OPTIMISM ANY LONGER.
Z Z Z
I'M GOING TO JOIN THE SENATE AND MASTER ONMYODO.
I SEE...
THANKS FOR EVERYTHING UNTIL NOW.

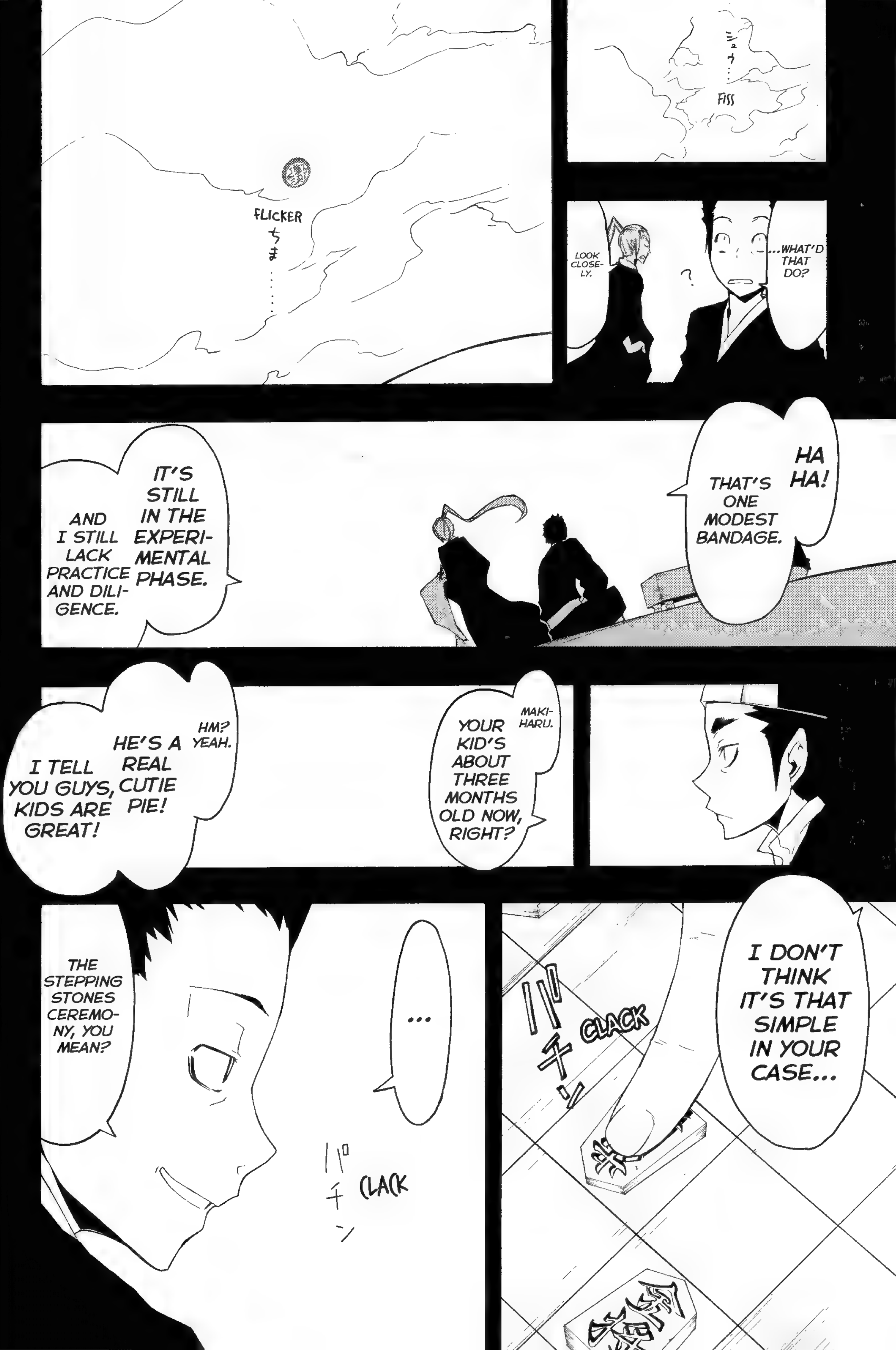

SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO STOP HIM, MAKIHARU?
EVEN IF HE JOINS THE SENATE, WHAT HE DOES WON'T CHANGE.
I'M SURE HE WANTS TO PROTECT THE WORLD.
THAT'S ALL I CAN ASK FOR.
IN THE END...
...PROTECTING IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT.
WHAT POSITION YOU'RE IN DOESN'T MATTER.
BUT YOU'LL BE ALL ALONE AT THE OFFICE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, JINROKU? WHY DON'T YOU JOIN?
...
NO, IT'S ALL RIGHT, JINROKU.
YOU ALREADY HAVE SOMETHING TO PROTECT.
?

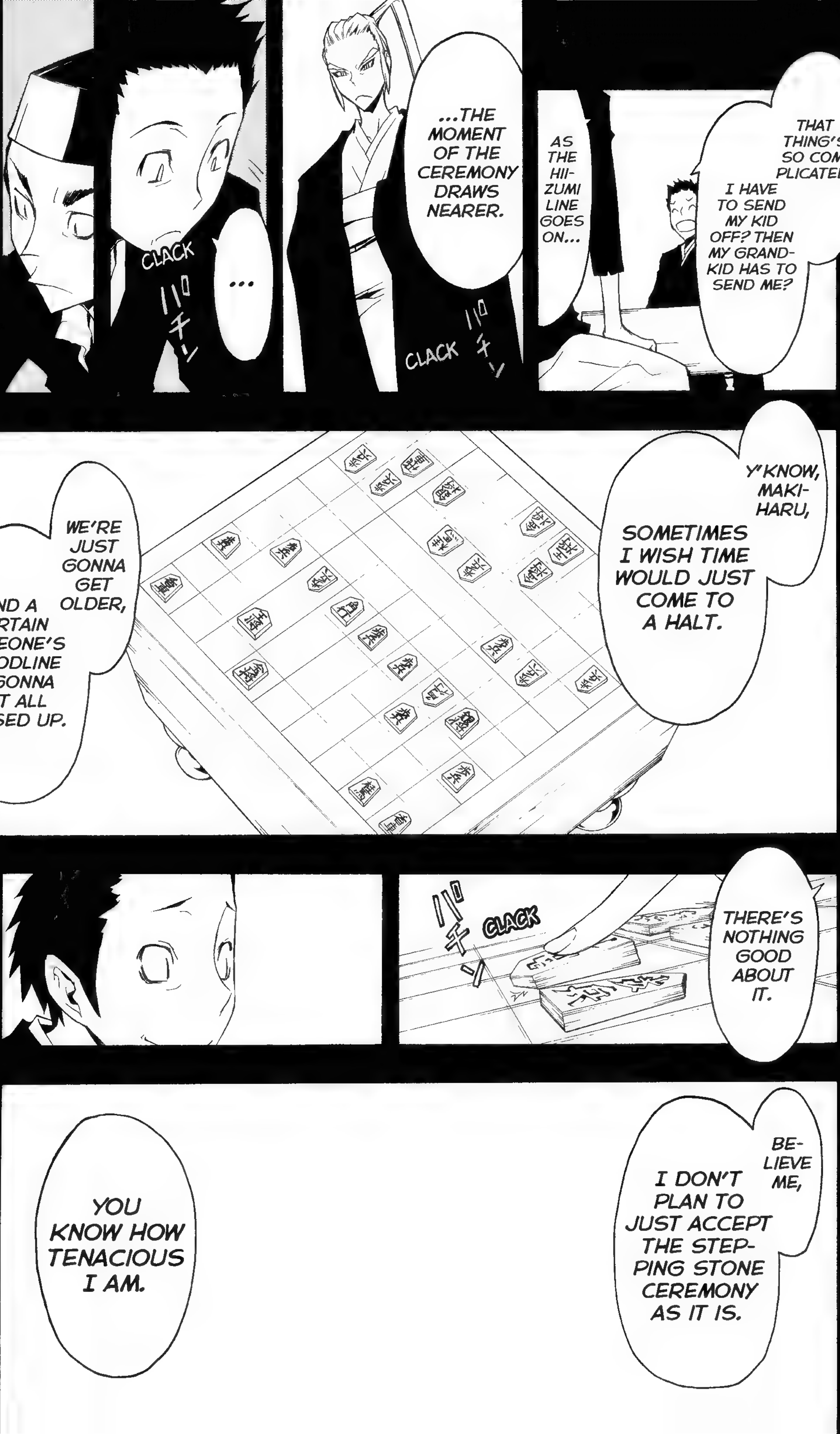

SORRY...
NOW WE HAVE TO FIND A HOME FOR THIS KID.
HMM.
WHAT ABOUT HOHORAN?
中華料

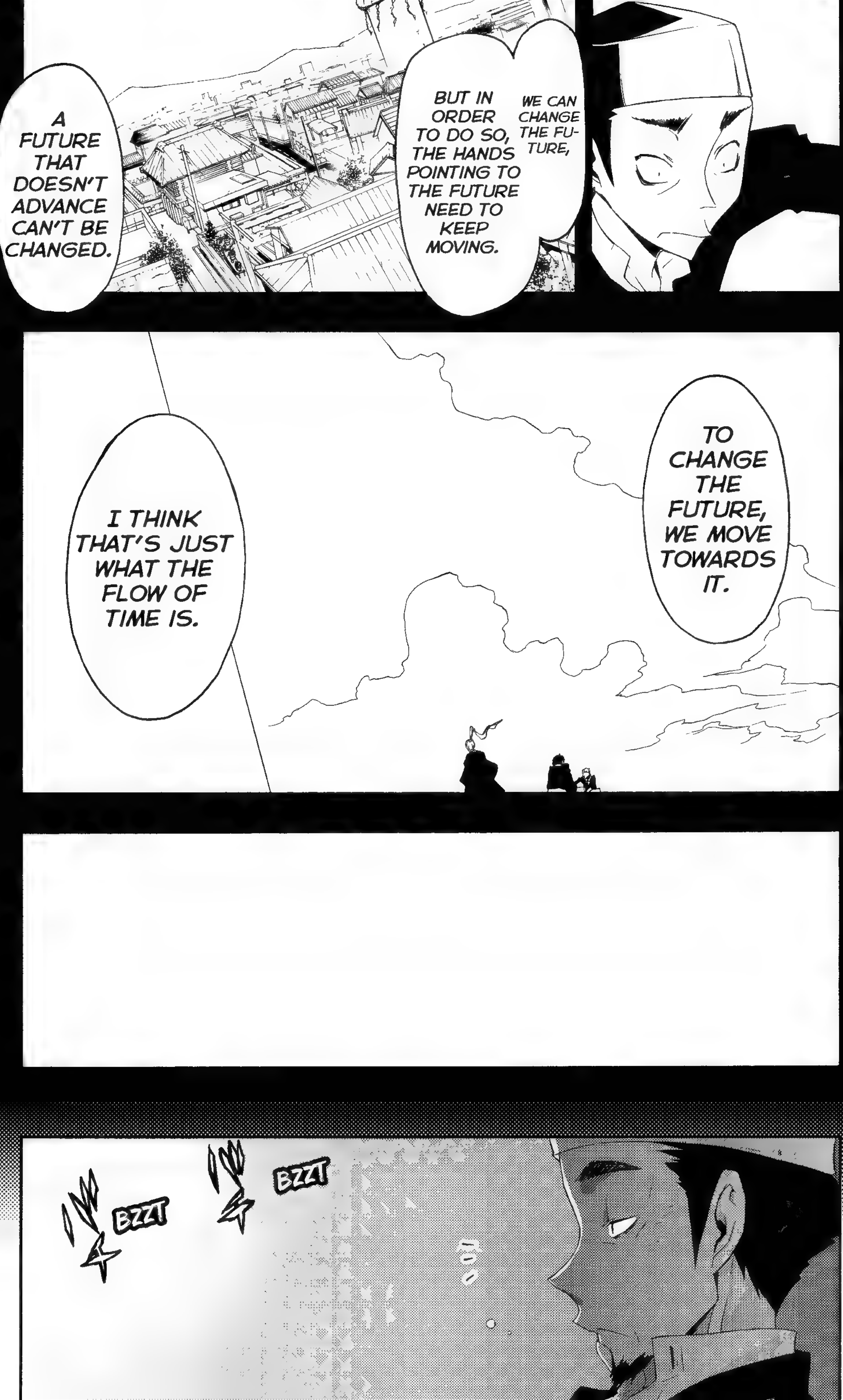
Sign: Chinese Cuisine

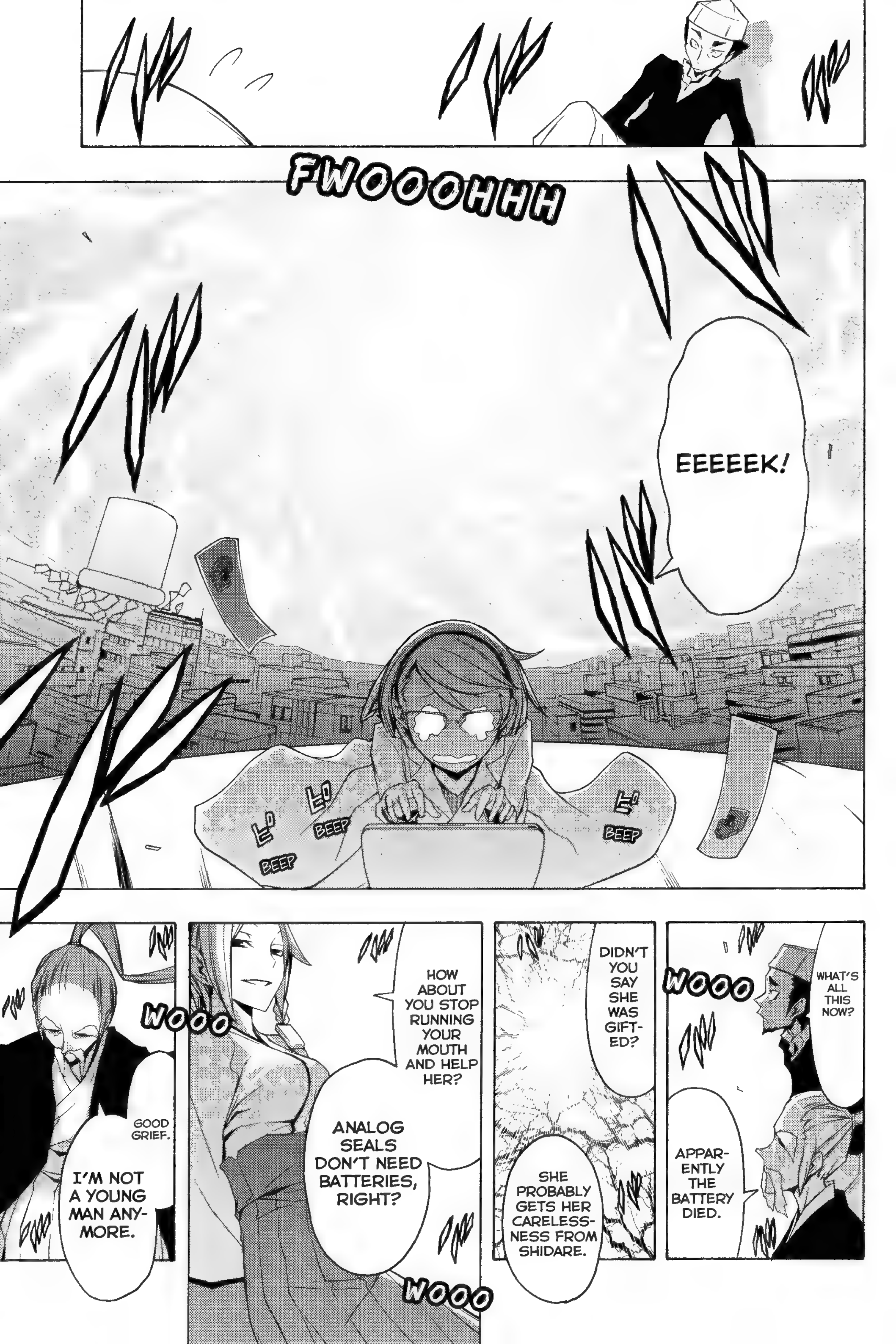

ぎし, CREAK
ぎし… CREAK
!

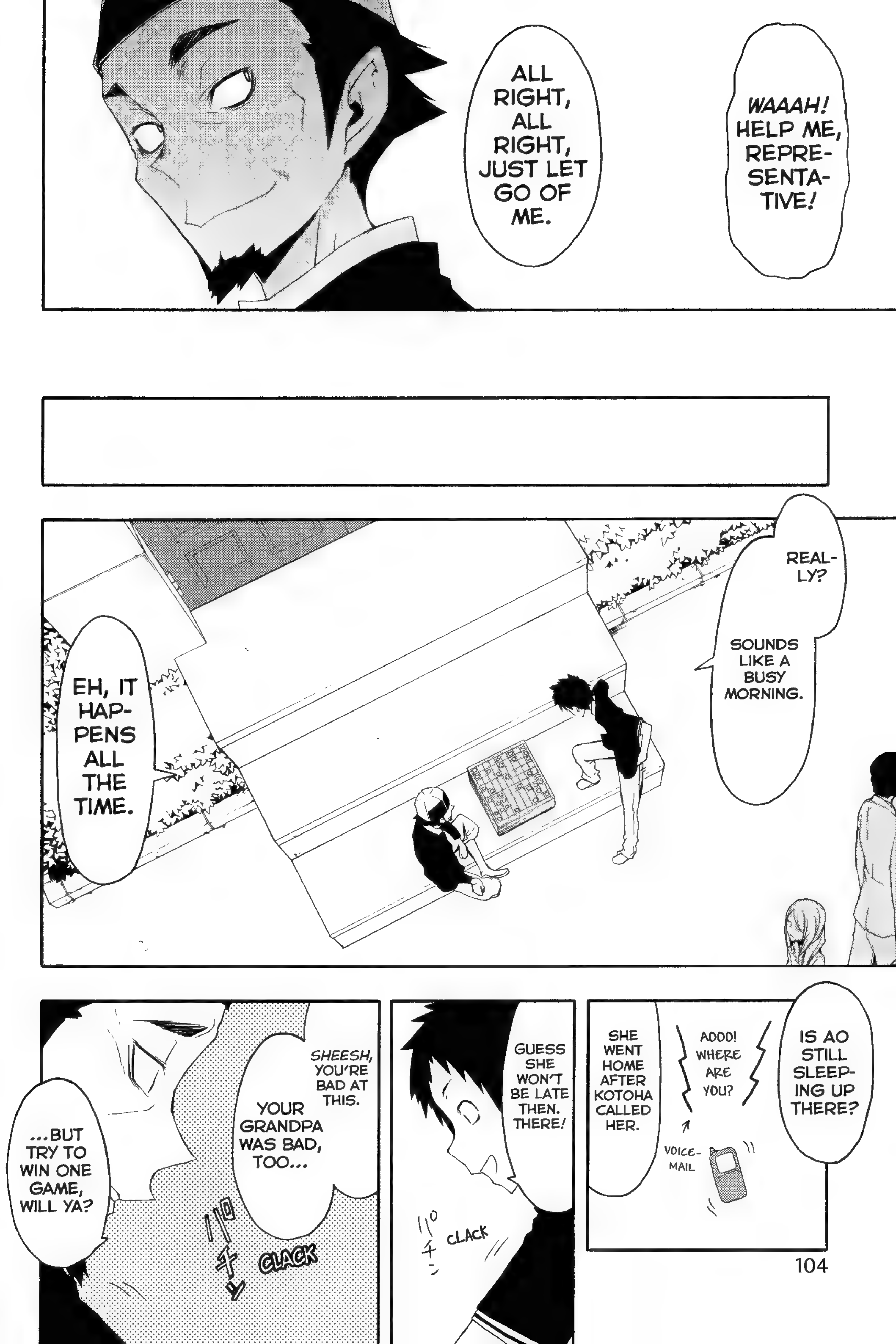

HEY!
LONG TIME NO SEE!
WELL, THIS IS RARE, MAKI-HARU.
I DO SEE JINROKU HERE OFTEN.
す, SWIF
I COME ONCE IN A WHILE.
ARE YOU HERE FOR WORK?
HMPH.
THANKS TO SOMEONE'S HALF-ASSED EXORCISMS DISTURBING THE SPIRITUAL AURAS.
どさ, FWUMP
CLEANUP IS A REAL HASSLE.
HA HA.
SORRY 'BOUT THAT.
ぴ, FWIP
BOOM
HAH!

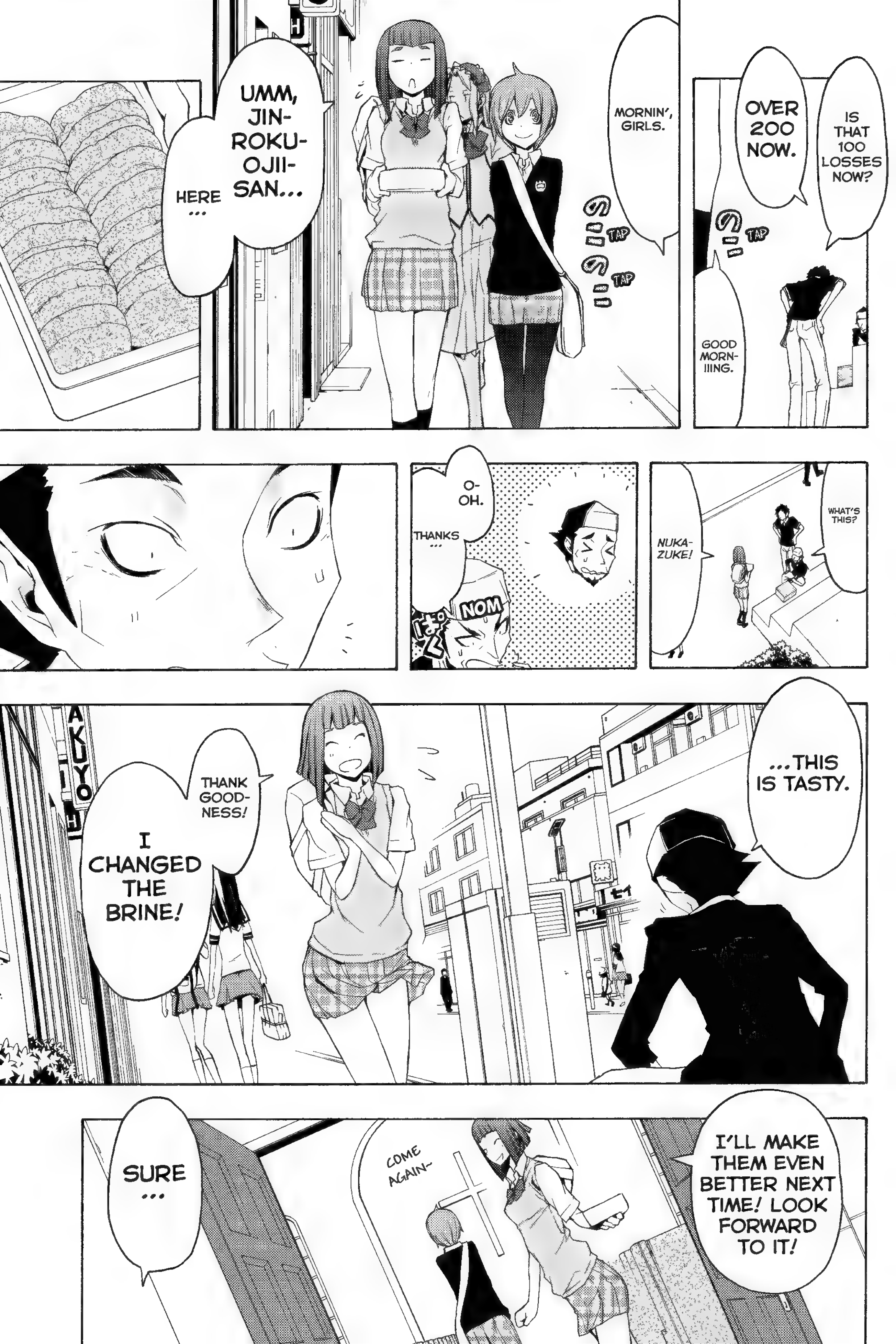

FLICKER
ちま……
シュウ……
FISS
LOOK CLOSELY.
?
...WHAT'D THAT DO?
HA HA! THAT'S ONE MODEST BANDAGE.
IT'S STILL IN THE EXPERIMENTAL PHASE.
AND I STILL LACK PRACTICE AND DILIGENCE.
MAKIHARU.
YOUR KID'S ABOUT THREE MONTHS OLD NOW, RIGHT?
HM? YEAH.
HE'S A REAL CUTIE PIE!
I TELL YOU GUYS, KIDS ARE GREAT!
I DON'T THINK IT'S THAT SIMPLE IN YOUR CASE...
パチン
CLACK
...
パチン
CLACK
THE STEPPING STONES CEREMONY, YOU MEAN?

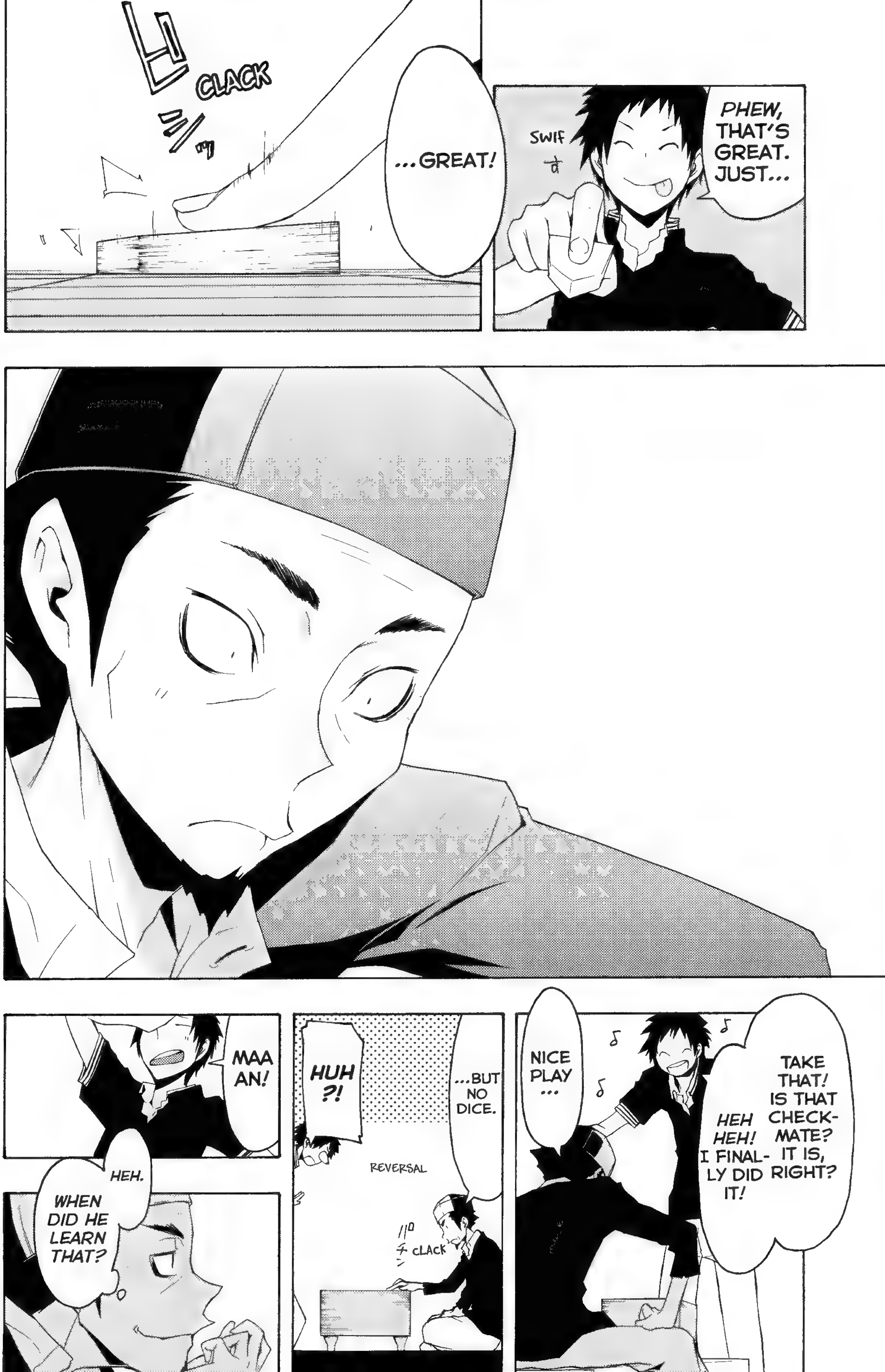

THAT THING'S SO COMPLICATED. I HAVE TO SEND MY KID OFF? THEN MY GRANDKID HAS TO SEND ME?
AS THE HIIZUMI LINE GOES ON...
...THE MOMENT OF THE CEREMONY DRAWS NEARER.
CLACK
パチン
...
CLACK
パチン
Y'KNOW, MAKIHARU, SOMETIMES I WISH TIME WOULD JUST COME TO A HALT.
WE'RE JUST GONNA GET OLDER, AND A CERTAIN SOMEONE'S BLOODLINE IS GONNA GET ALL MESSED UP.
THERE'S NOTHING GOOD ABOUT IT.
CLACK
パチン
BELIEVE ME, I DON'T PLAN TO JUST ACCEPT THE STEPPING STONE CEREMONY AS IT IS.
YOU KNOW HOW TENACIOUS I AM.

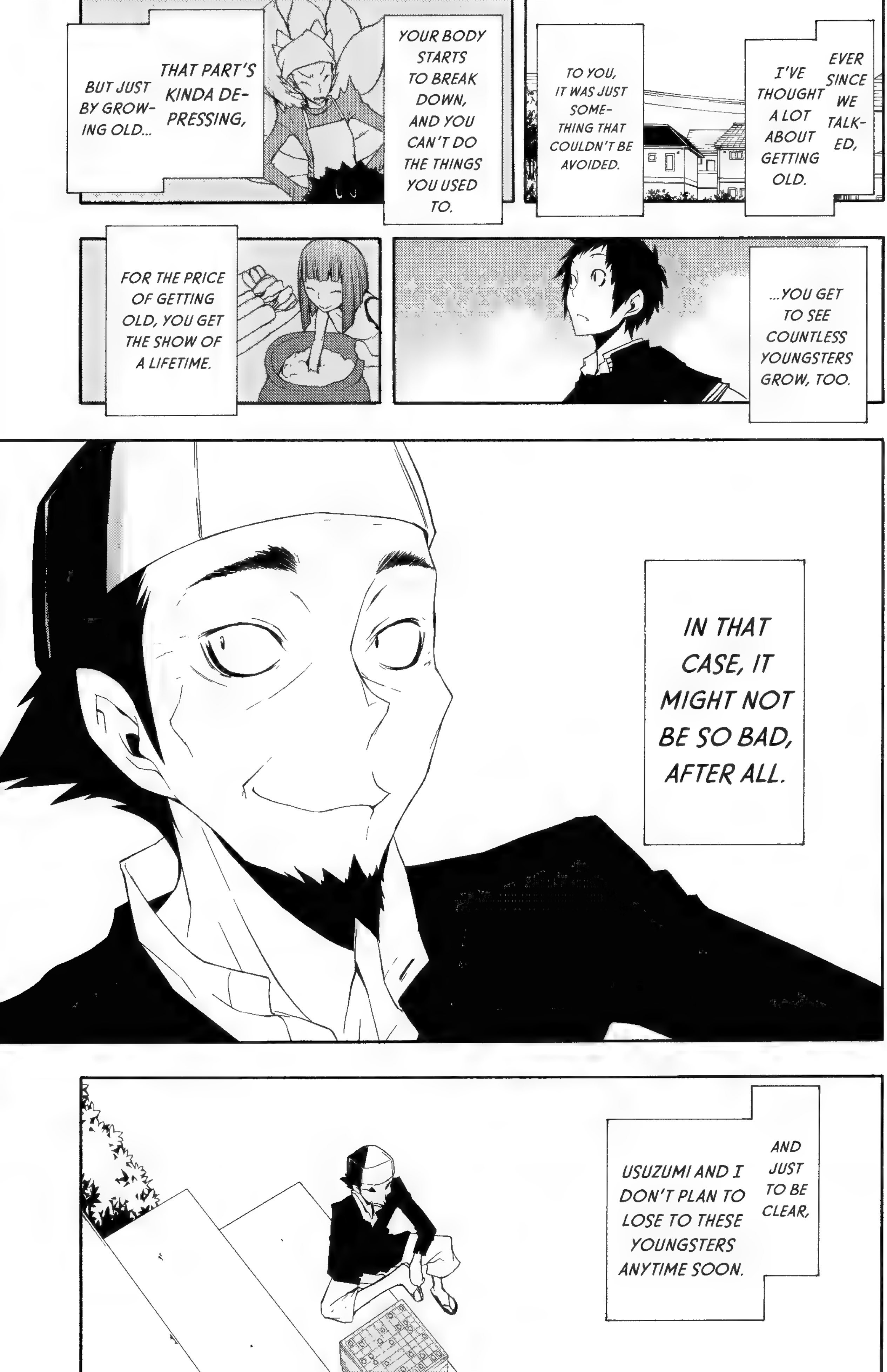

WE CAN CHANGE THE FUTURE,
BUT IN ORDER TO DO SO, THE HANDS POINTING TO THE FUTURE NEED TO KEEP MOVING.
A FUTURE THAT DOESN'T ADVANCE CAN'T BE CHANGED.
TO CHANGE THE FUTURE, WE MOVE TOWARDS IT.
I THINK THAT'S JUST WHAT THE FLOW OF TIME IS.
BZZT
BZZT

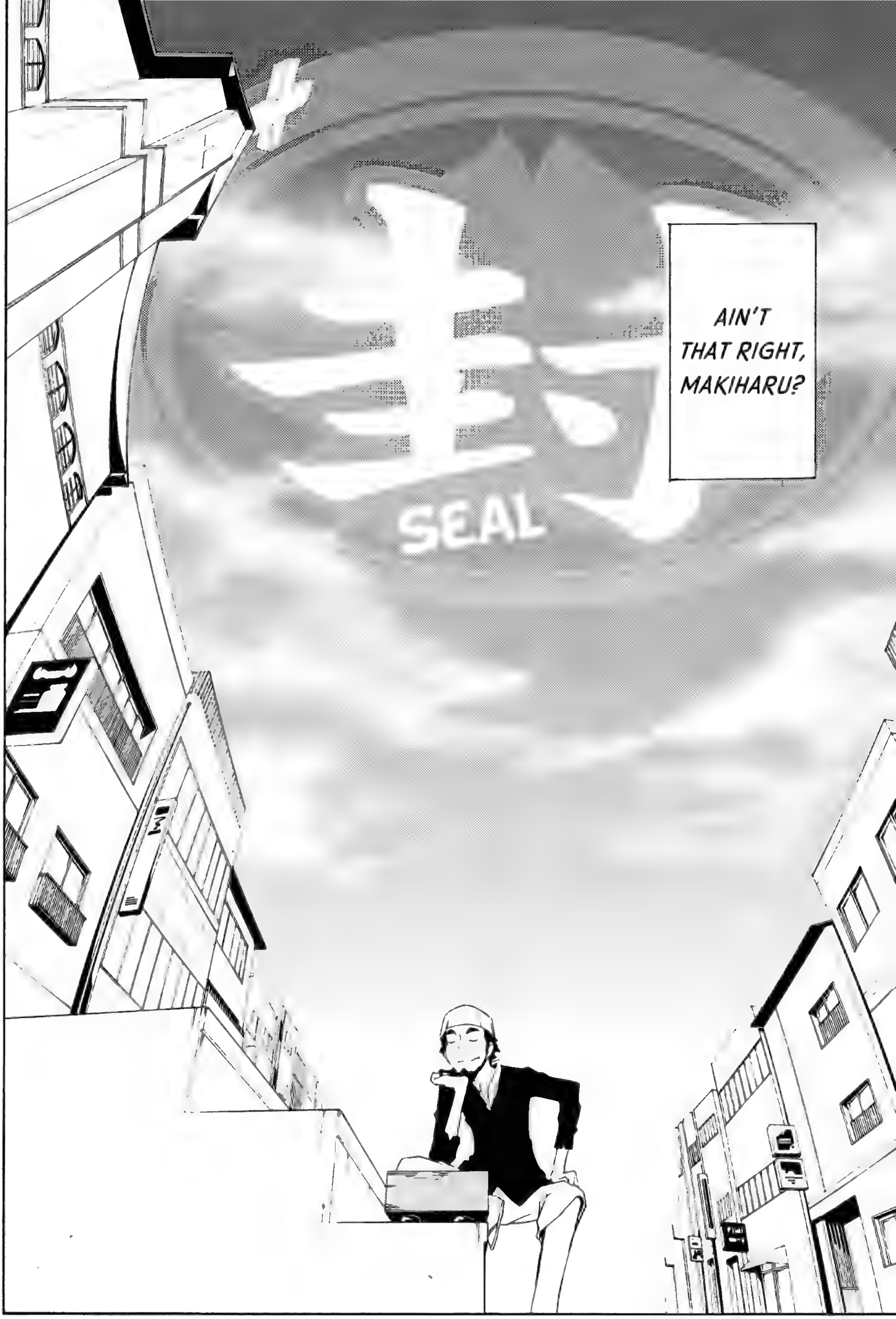

FWOOOHHH
EEEEEK!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
WHAT'S ALL THIS NOW?
WOOO
APPARENTLY THE BATTERY DIED.
DIDN'T YOU SAY SHE WAS GIFTED?
SHE PROBABLY GETS HER CARELESSNESS FROM SHIDARE.
HOW ABOUT YOU STOP RUNNING YOUR MOUTH AND HELP HER?
ANALOG SEALS DON'T NEED BATTERIES, RIGHT?
WOOO
WOOO
GOOD GRIEF.
I'M NOT A YOUNG MAN ANYMORE.


WAAAH! HELP ME, REPRESENTATIVE!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, JUST LET GO OF ME.
REALLY?
SOUNDS LIKE A BUSY MORNING.
EH, IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.
IS AO STILL SLEEPING UP THERE?
ADDO! WHERE ARE YOU?
VOICE-MAIL
SHE WENT HOME AFTER KOTOHA CALLED HER.
GUESS SHE WON'T BE LATE THEN. THERE!
パチ
CLACK
SHEESH, YOU'RE BAD AT THIS.
YOUR GRANDPA WAS BAD, TOO...
パチッ
CLACK
...BUT TRY TO WIN ONE GAME, WILL YA?


IS THAT 100 LOSSES NOW?
OVER 200 NOW.
TAP
GOOD MORNIIING.
MORNIN', GIRLS.
TAP
TAP
UMM, JINROKU-OJII-SAN...
HERE...
H
WHAT'S THIS?
NUKA-ZUKE!
O-OH.
THANKS...
NOM
ぽく
...THIS IS TASTY.
THANK GOODNESS!
I CHANGED THE BRINE!
AKUYO
H
I'LL MAKE THEM EVEN BETTER NEXT TIME! LOOK FORWARD TO IT!
COME AGAIN~
SURE...


PHEW, THAT'S GREAT. JUST...
SWIF
...GREAT!
CLACK
TAKE THAT! IS THAT CHECKMATE? IT IS, RIGHT?
HEH HEH! I FINALLY DID IT!
NICE PLAY...
...BUT NO DICE.
CLACK
HUH?!
REVERSAL
MAAAN!
HEH.
WHEN DID HE LEARN THAT?

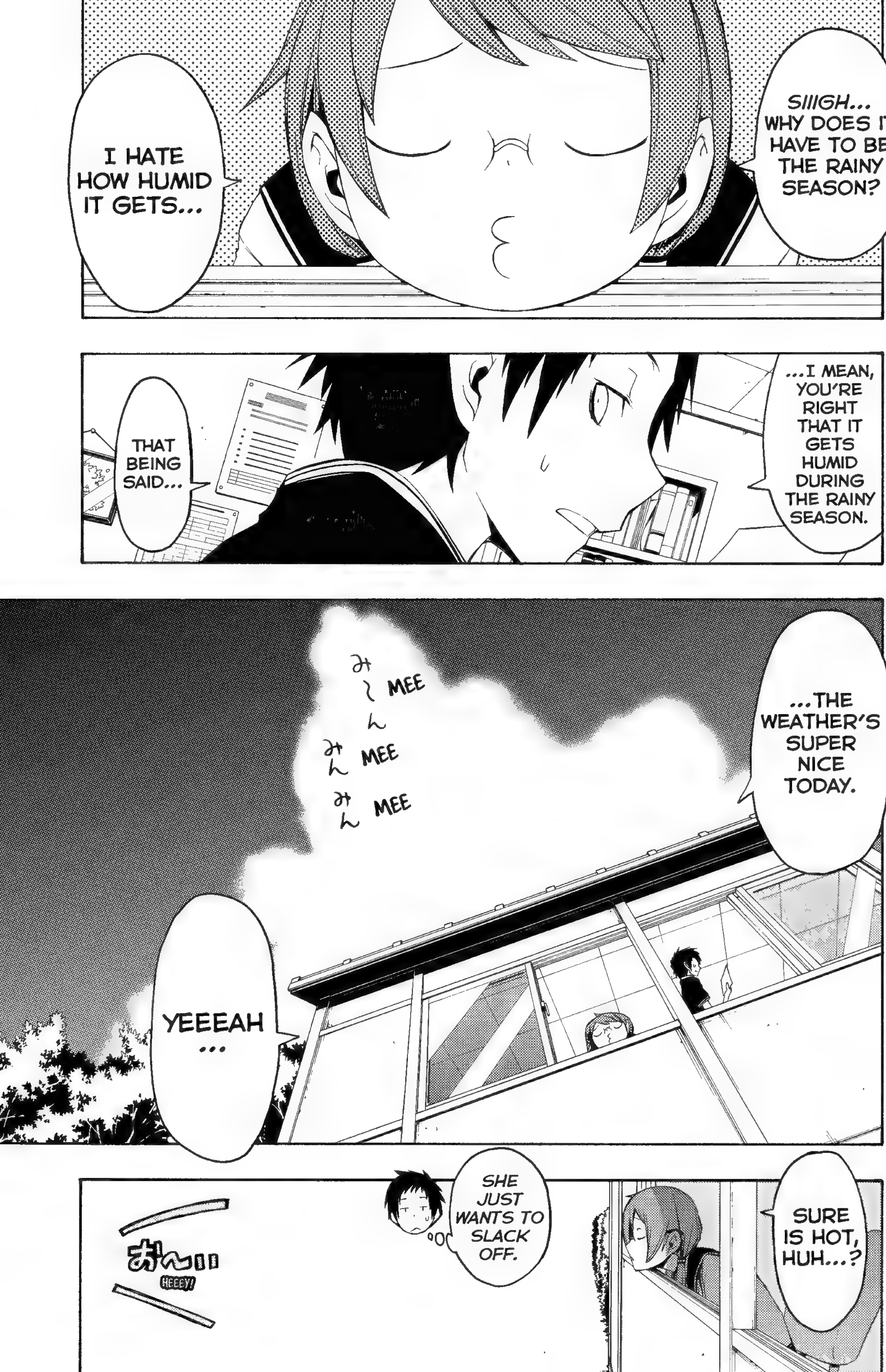

EVER SINCE WE TALKED, I'VE THOUGHT A LOT ABOUT GETTING OLD.
TO YOU, IT WAS JUST SOMETHING THAT COULDN'T BE AVOIDED.
YOUR BODY STARTS TO BREAK DOWN, AND YOU CAN'T DO THE THINGS YOU USED TO.
THAT PART'S KINDA DEPRESSING,
BUT JUST BY GROWING OLD...
...YOU GET TO SEE COUNTLESS YOUNGSTERS GROW, TOO.
FOR THE PRICE OF GETTING OLD, YOU GET THE SHOW OF A LIFETIME.
IN THAT CASE, IT MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD, AFTER ALL.
AND JUST TO BE CLEAR,
USUZUMI AND I DON'T PLAN TO LOSE TO THESE YOUNGSTERS ANYTIME SOON.

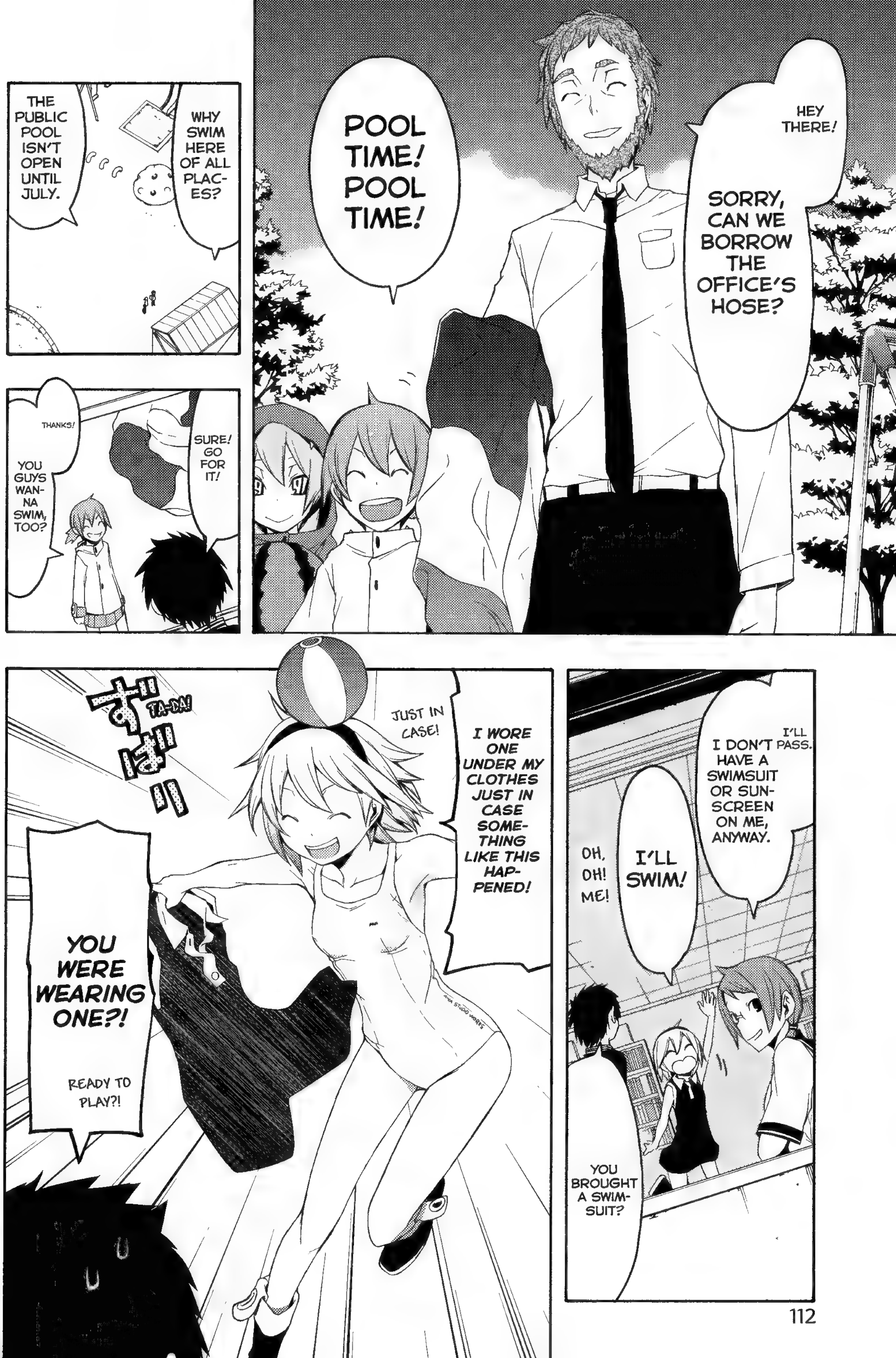

封
SEAL
AIN'T THAT RIGHT, MAKIHARU?

53RD NIGHT TO EACH THEIR OWN (EPILOGUE) END

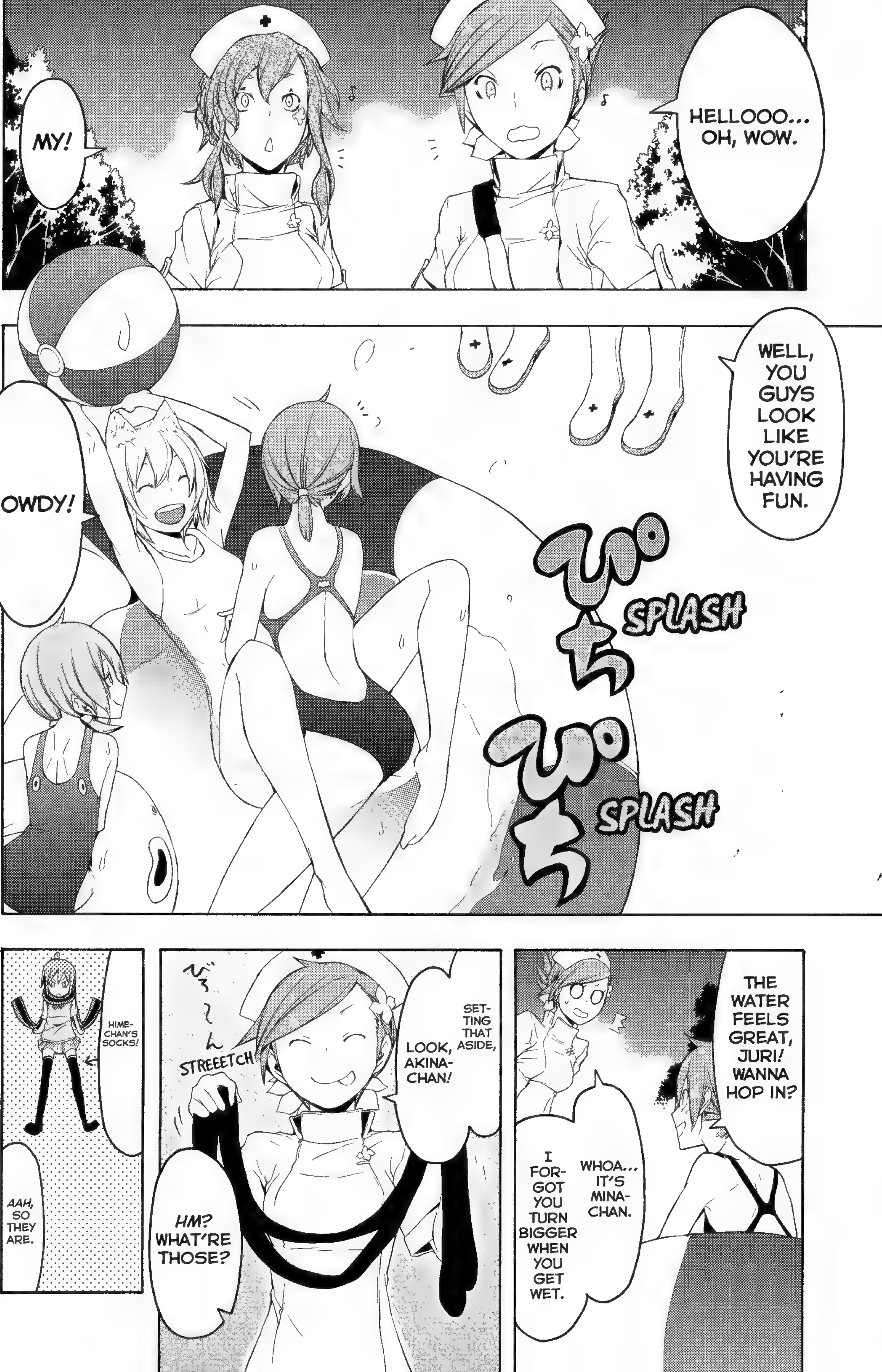
YOZAKURA QUARTET
10

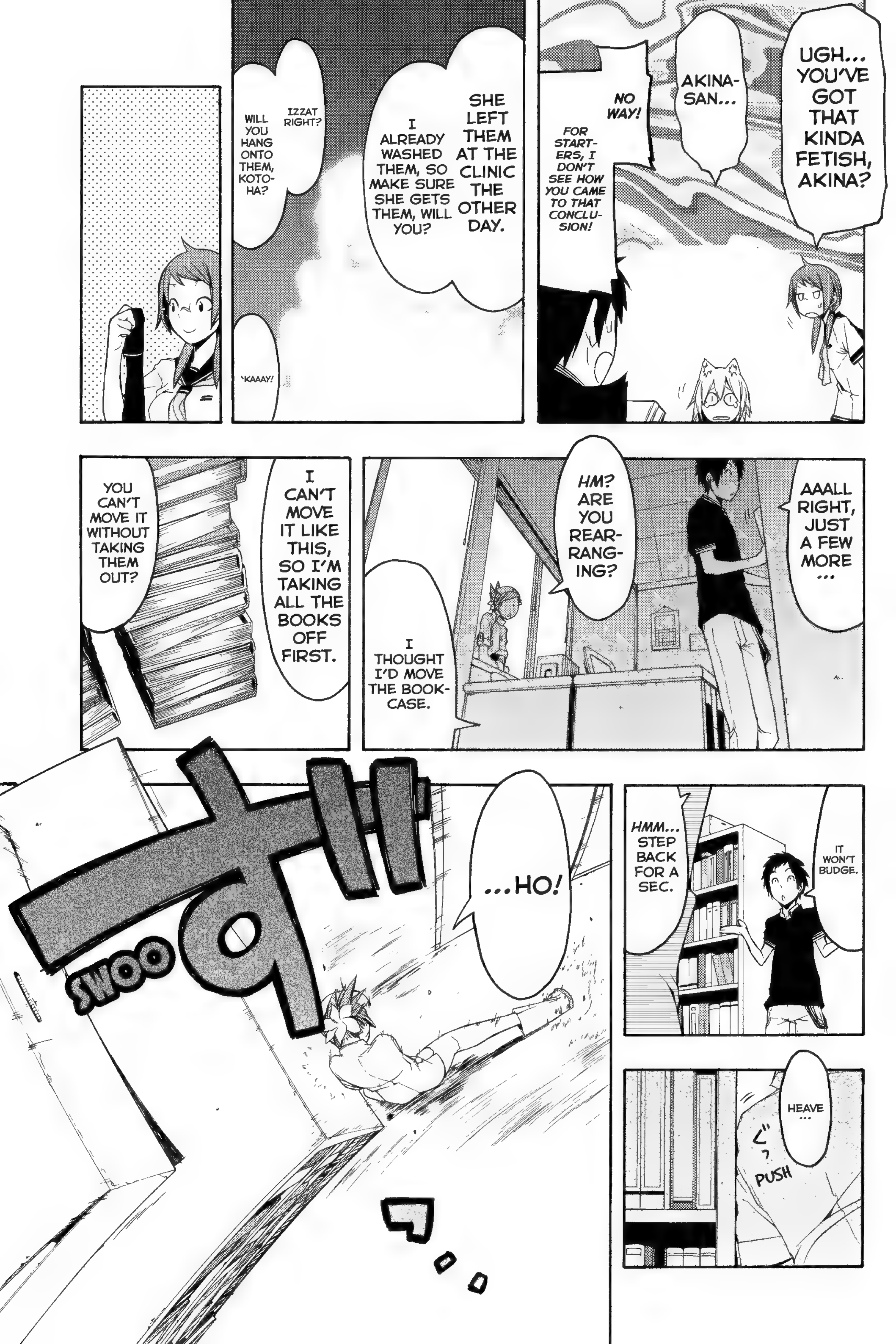
YOZAKURA QUARTET 10

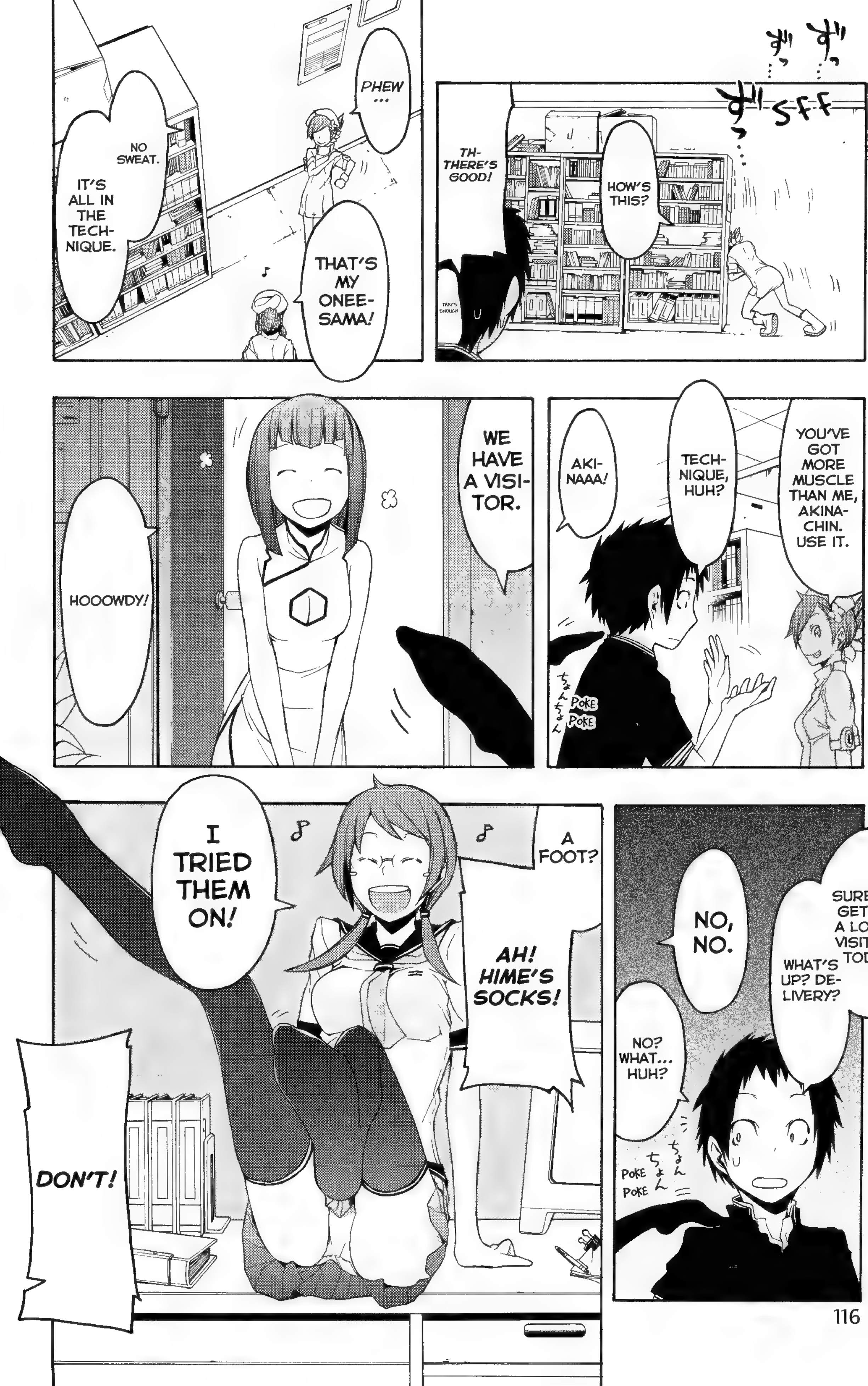

SIIIGH... WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE THE RAINY SEASON?
I HATE HOW HUMID IT GETS...
...I MEAN, YOU'RE RIGHT THAT IT GETS HUMID DURING THE RAINY SEASON.
THAT BEING SAID...
...THE WEATHER'S SUPER NICE TODAY.
み〜ん MEE
みん MEE
みん MEE
YEEEAH...
SURE IS HOT, HUH...?
SHE JUST WANTS TO SLACK OFF.
おーい!! HEEEY!

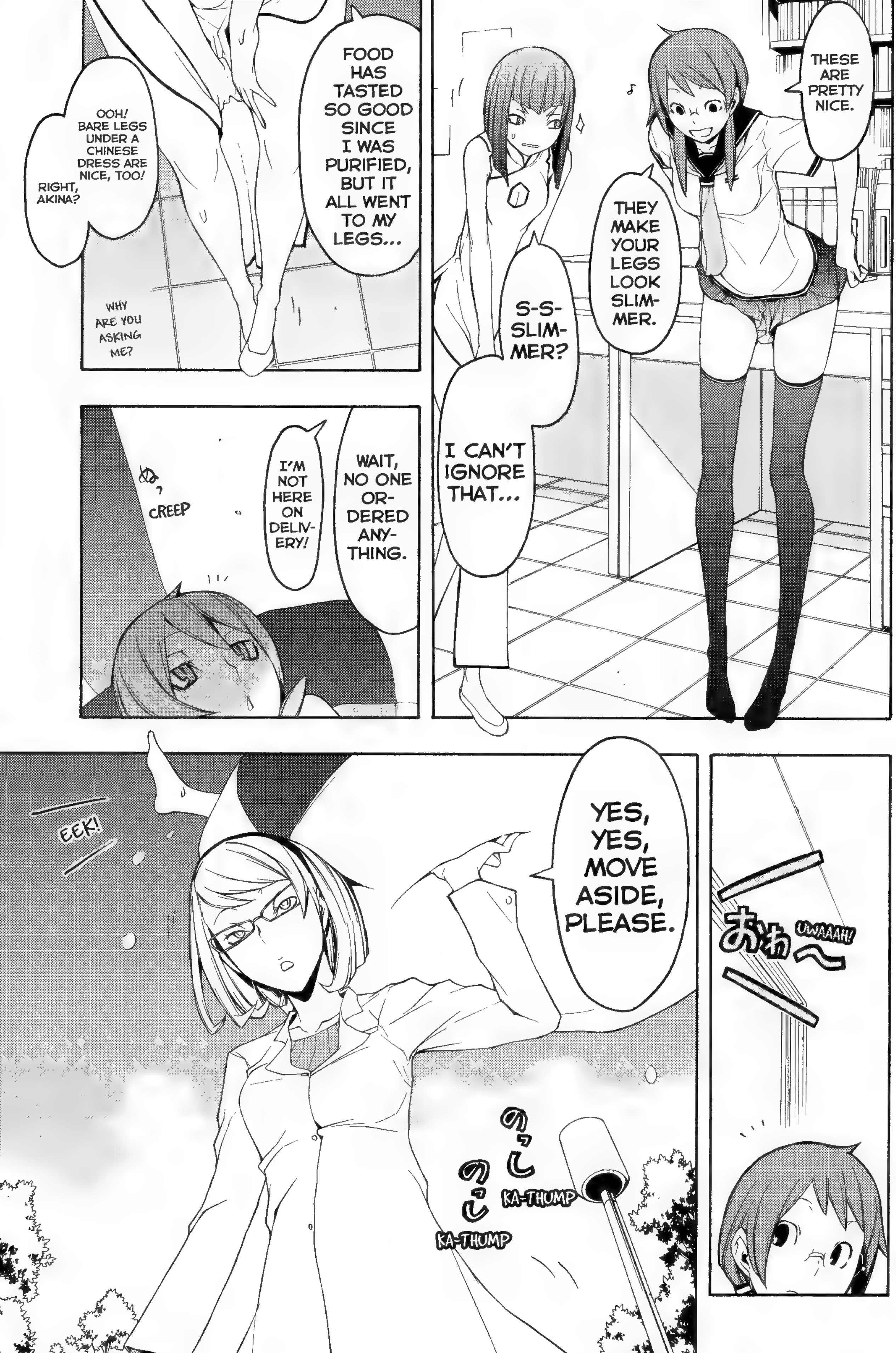

HEY THERE!
SORRY, CAN WE BORROW THE OFFICE'S HOSE?
POOL TIME! POOL TIME!
WHY SWIM HERE OF ALL PLACES?
THE PUBLIC POOL ISN'T OPEN UNTIL JULY.
SURE! GO FOR IT!
THANKS!
YOU GUYS WANNA SWIM, TOO?
I DON'T HAVE A SWIMSUIT OR SUNSCREEN ON ME, ANYWAY. I'LL PASS.
I'LL SWIM!
OH, OH! ME!
YOU BROUGHT A SWIMSUIT?
ずば!!
TA-DA!
JUST IN CASE!
I WORE ONE UNDER MY CLOTHES JUST IN CASE SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED!
YOU WERE WEARING ONE?!
READY TO PLAY?!

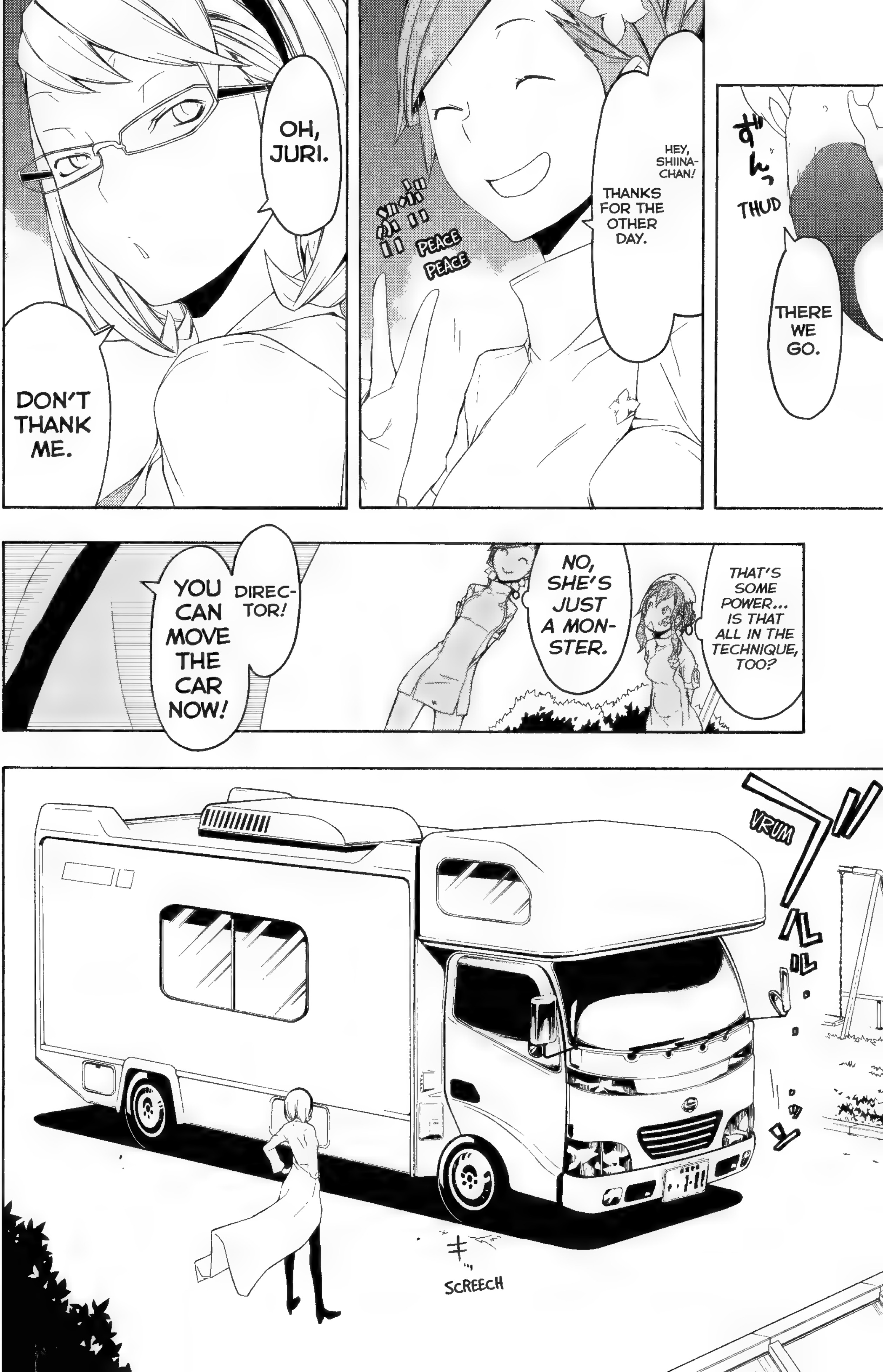
#54 SUMMER'S COMING (PART ONE)

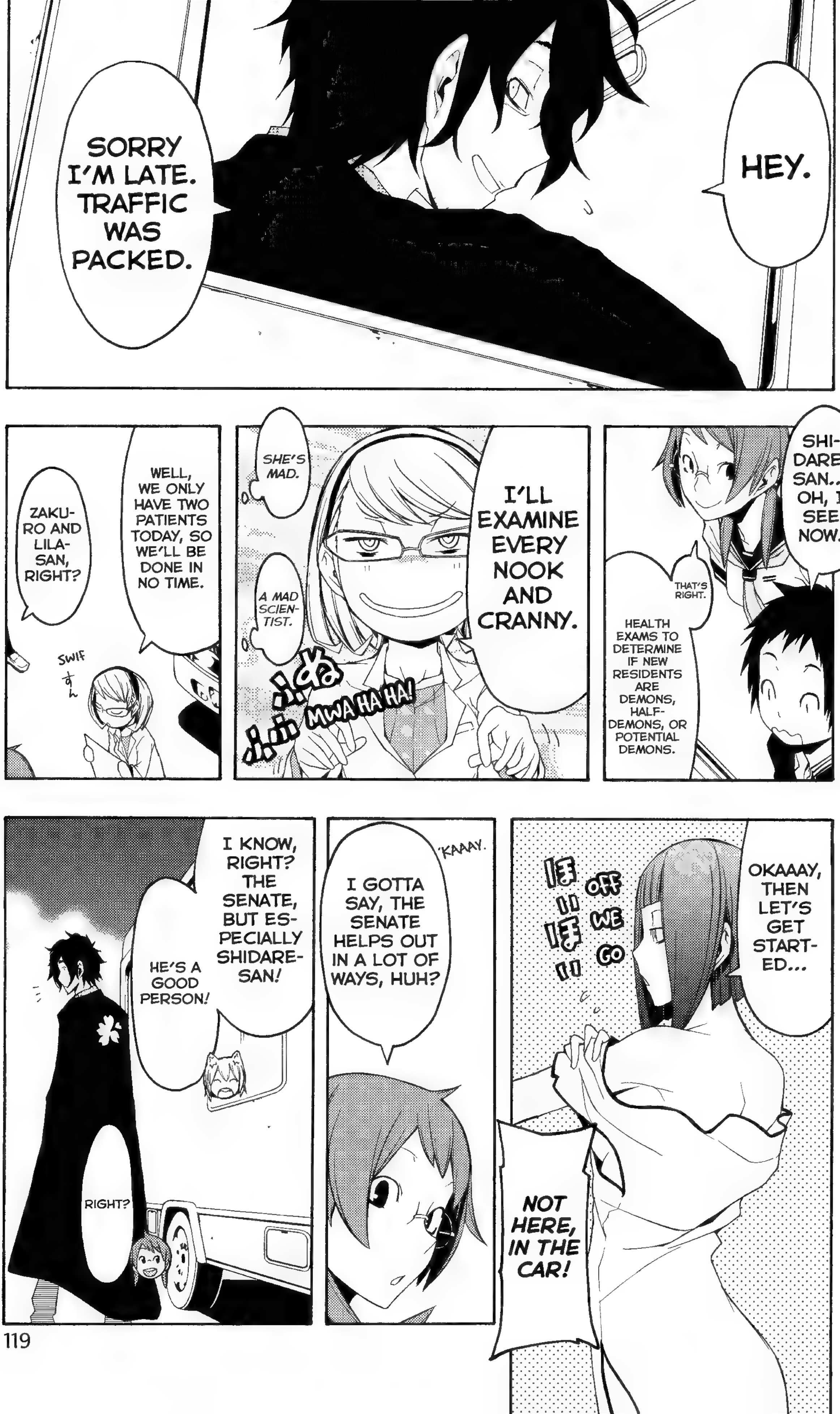

HELLOOO… OH, WOW.
MY!
WELL, YOU GUYS LOOK LIKE YOU'RE HAVING FUN.
HOWDY!
ぴち
SPLASH
ぴち
SPLASH
THE WATER FEELS GREAT, JURI! WANNA HOP IN?
WHOA… IT'S MINA-CHAN.
I FORGOT YOU TURN BIGGER WHEN YOU GET WET.
SETTING THAT ASIDE,
LOOK, AKINA-CHAN!
びろ〜ん
STREEETCH
HM? WHAT'RE THOSE?
HIME-CHAN'S SOCKS!
AAH, SO THEY ARE.

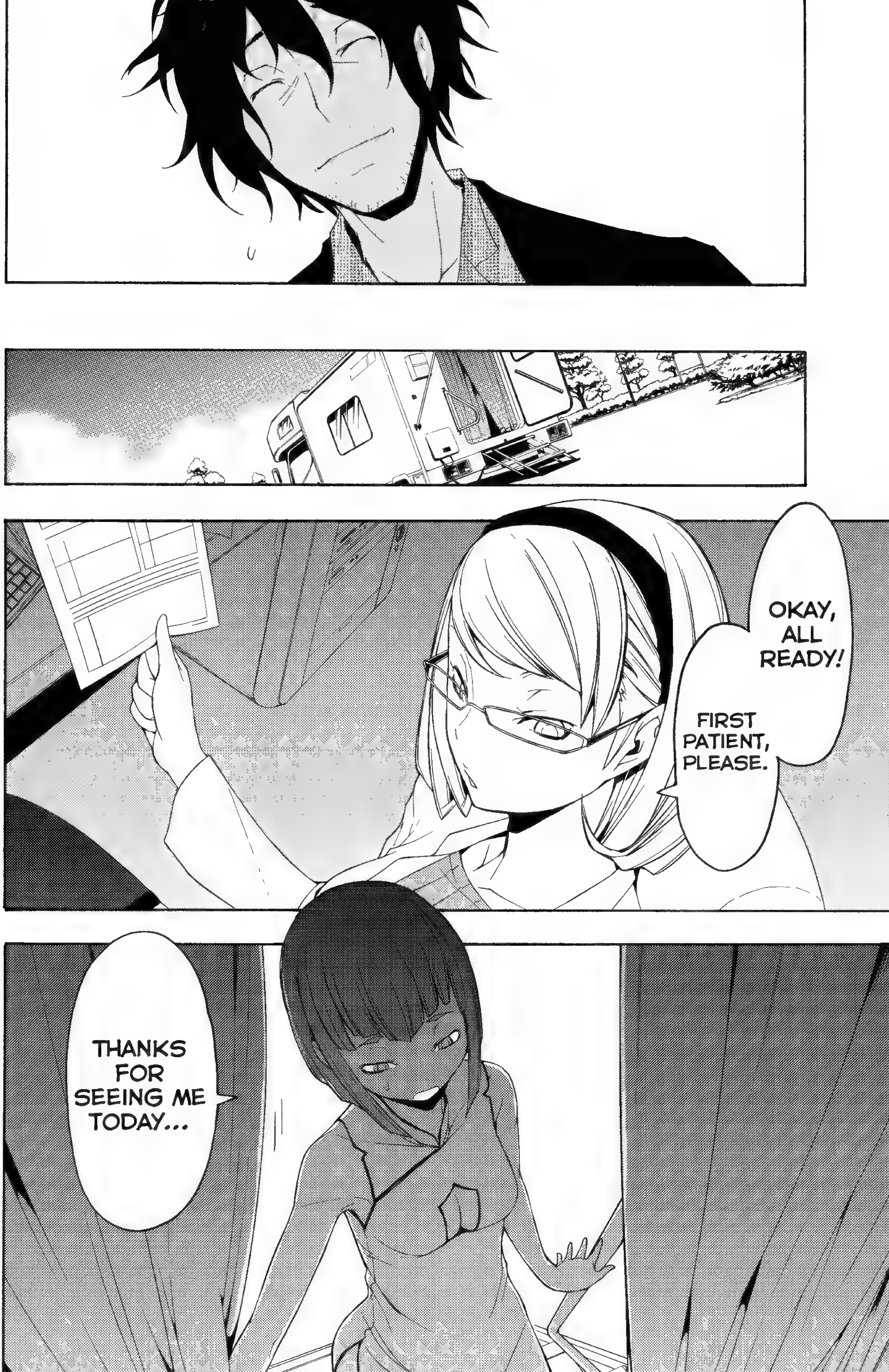

UGH... YOU'VE GOT THAT KINDA FETISH, AKINA?
AKINA-SAN...
NO WAY!
FOR STARTERS, I DON'T SEE HOW YOU CAME TO THAT CONCLUSION!
SHE LEFT THEM AT THE CLINIC THE OTHER DAY.
I ALREADY WASHED THEM, SO MAKE SURE SHE GETS THEM, WILL YOU?
IZZAT RIGHT?
WILL YOU HANG ONTO THEM, KOTOHA?
'KAAAY!
AAALL RIGHT, JUST A FEW MORE...
HM? ARE YOU REARRANGING?
I THOUGHT I'D MOVE THE BOOKCASE.
I CAN'T MOVE IT LIKE THIS, SO I'M TAKING ALL THE BOOKS OFF FIRST.
YOU CAN'T MOVE IT WITHOUT TAKING THEM OUT?
IT WON'T BUDGE.
HMM... STEP BACK FOR A SEC.
HEAVE...
ぐっ
PUSH
...HO!
ず
SWOO

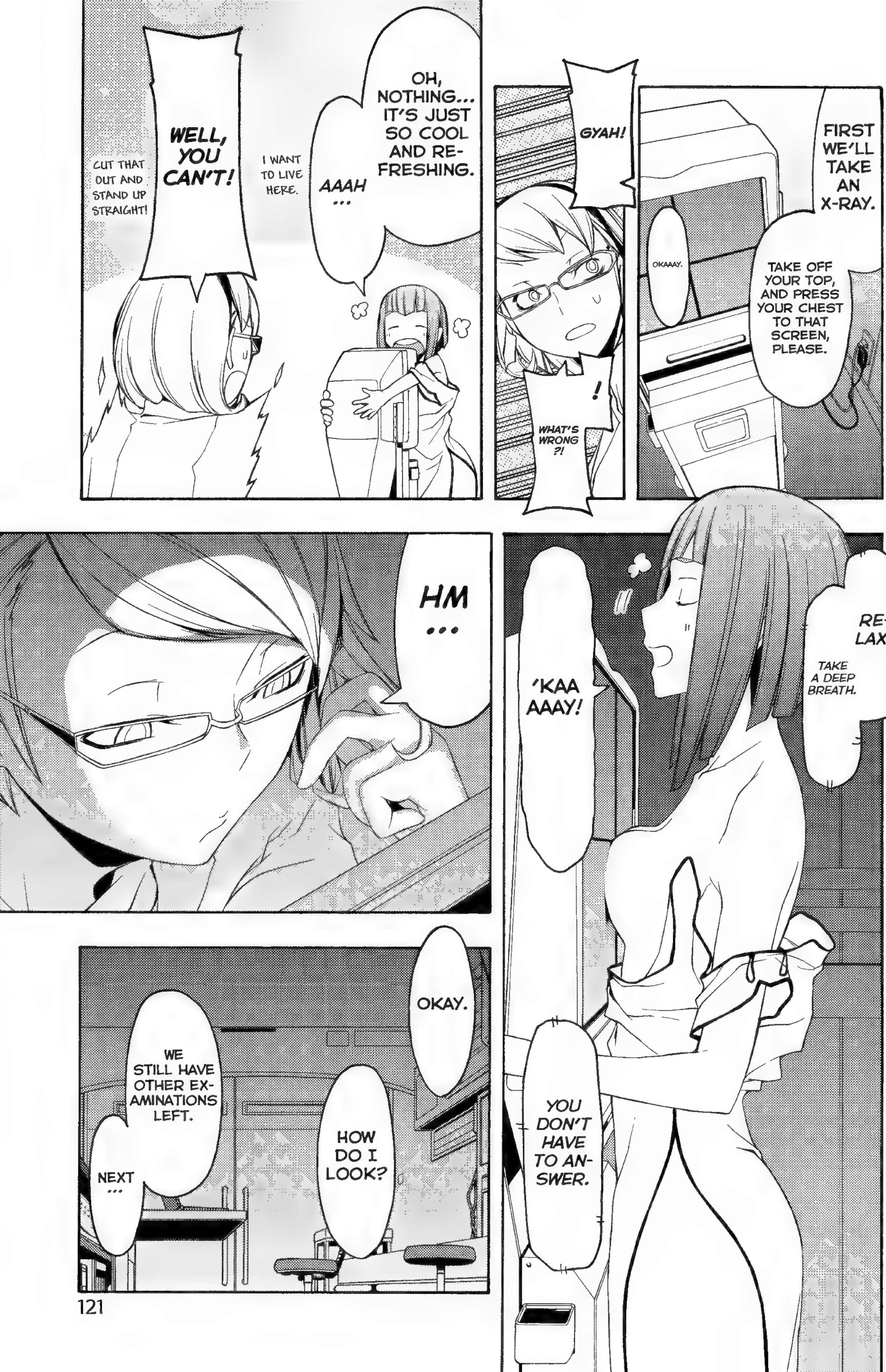

ずっ ずっ ずっ SFF
HOW'S THIS?
TH-THERE'S GOOD!
THAT'S ENOUGH
PHEW...
NO SWEAT.
IT'S ALL IN THE TECHNIQUE.
THAT'S MY ONEE-SAMA!
YOU'VE GOT MORE MUSCLE THAN ME, AKINA-CHIN. USE IT.
TECHNIQUE, HUH?
AKINAAA!
ちょんちょん POKE POKE
WE HAVE A VISITOR.
HOOOWDY!
SURE ARE GETTING A LOT OF VISITORS TODAY.
WHAT'S UP? DELIVERY?
NO, NO.
NO? WHAT... HUH?
ちょんちょん POKE POKE
A FOOT?
AH! HIME'S SOCKS!
I TRIED THEM ON!
DON'T!

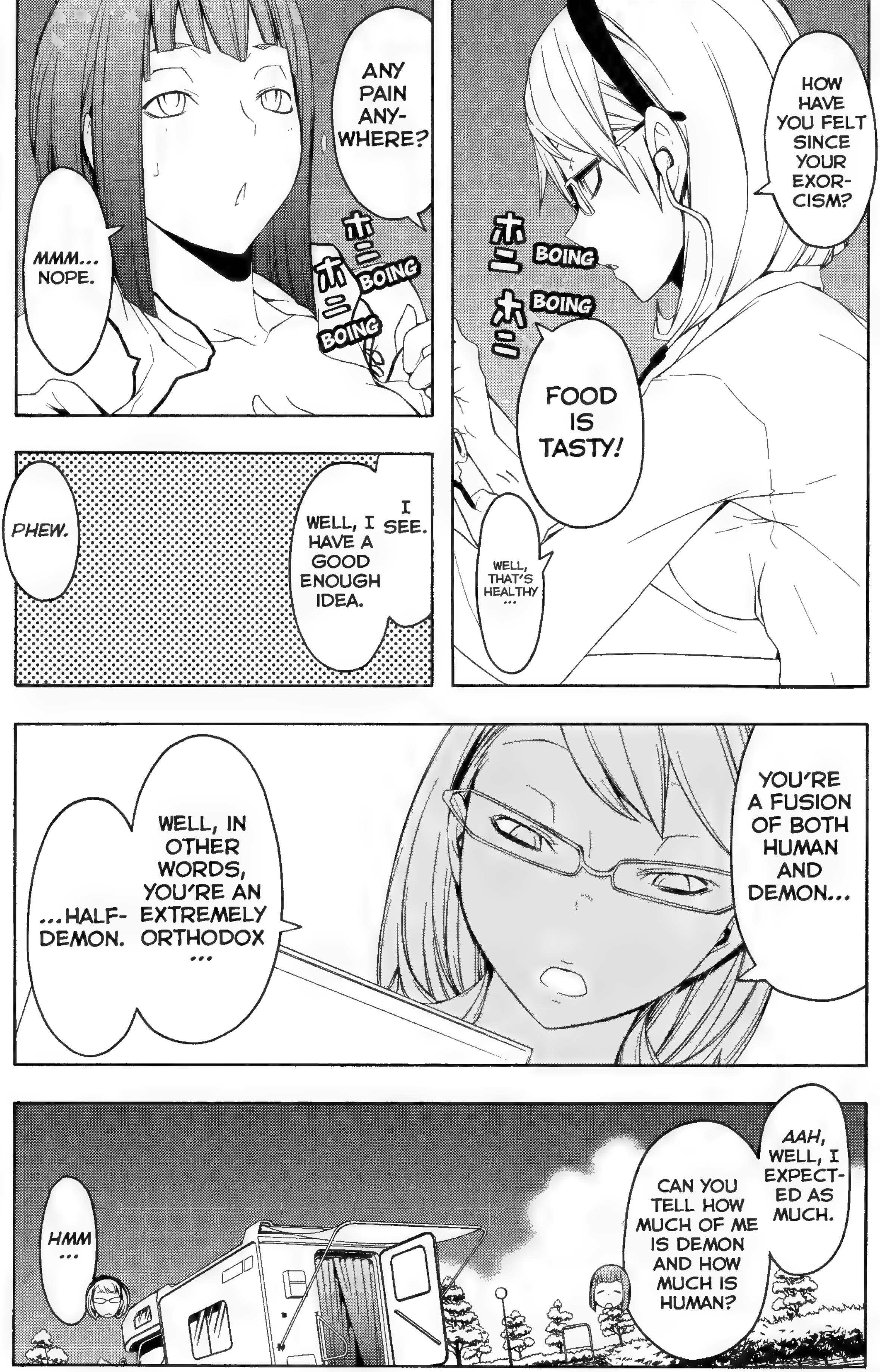

THESE ARE PRETTY NICE.
THEY MAKE YOUR LEGS LOOK SLIMMER.
S-S-SLIMMER?
I CAN'T IGNORE THAT...
FOOD HAS TASTED SO GOOD SINCE I WAS PURIFIED, BUT IT ALL WENT TO MY LEGS...
OOH! BARE LEGS UNDER A CHINESE DRESS ARE NICE, TOO! RIGHT, AKINA?
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME?
WAIT, NO ONE ORDERED ANYTHING.
I'M NOT HERE ON DELIVERY!
ぬっ CREEP
おぁ〜 UWAAAH!
YES, YES, MOVE ASIDE, PLEASE.
EEK!
のっし KA-THUMP
のっし KA-THUMP

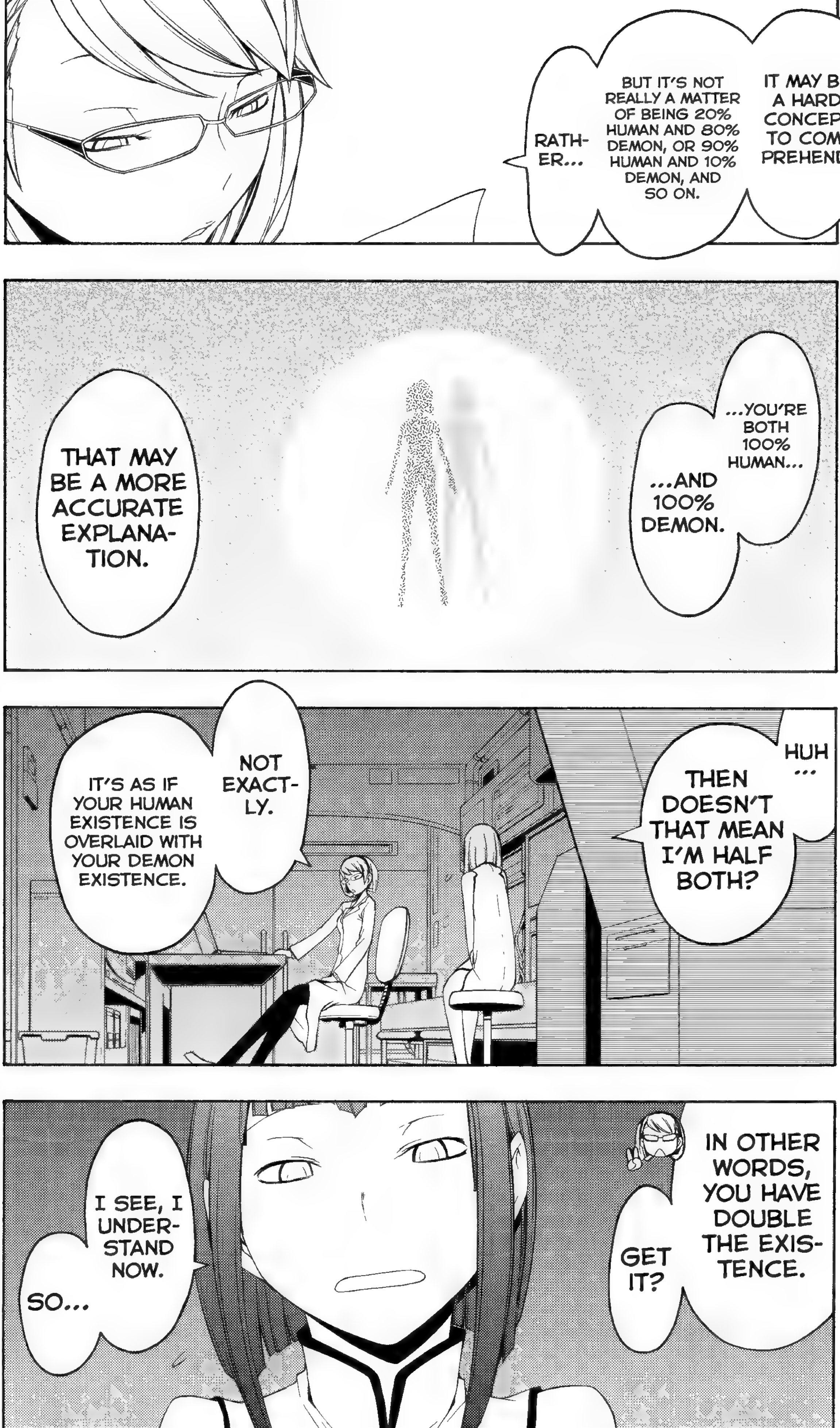

ずんっ
THUD
THERE WE GO.
HEY, SHIINA-CHAN!
THANKS FOR THE OTHER DAY.
PEACE PEACE
OH, JURI.
DON'T THANK ME.
THAT'S SOME POWER... IS THAT ALL IN THE TECHNIQUE, TOO?
NO, SHE'S JUST A MONSTER.
DIRECTOR!
YOU CAN MOVE THE CAR NOW!
VRUM
SCREECH

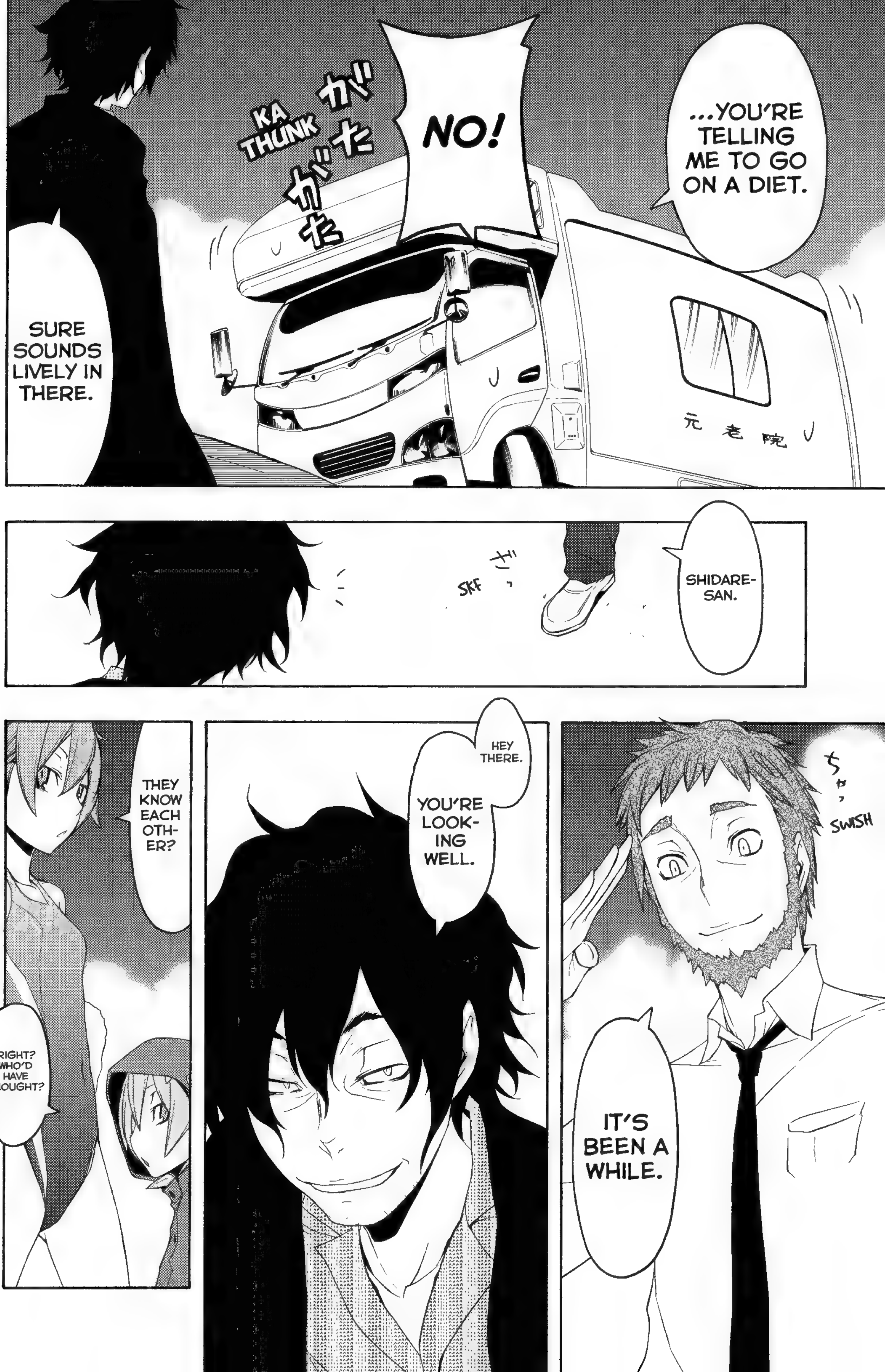

HEY.
SORRY I'M LATE. TRAFFIC WAS PACKED.
SHIDARE-SAN... OH, I SEE NOW.
THAT'S RIGHT.
HEALTH EXAMS TO DETERMINE IF NEW RESIDENTS ARE DEMONS, HALF-DEMONS, OR POTENTIAL DEMONS.
I'LL EXAMINE EVERY NOOK AND CRANNY.
ふぬ ふふ
MWA HA HA!
SHE'S MAD.
A MAD SCIENTIST.
WELL, WE ONLY HAVE TWO PATIENTS TODAY, SO WE'LL BE DONE IN NO TIME.
ZAKURO AND LILA-SAN, RIGHT?
SWIF
すん
OKAAAY, THEN LET'S GET STARTED...
ほいほい
OFF WE GO
NOT HERE, IN THE CAR!
'KAAAY.
I GOTTA SAY, THE SENATE HELPS OUT IN A LOT OF WAYS, HUH?
I KNOW, RIGHT? THE SENATE, BUT ESPECIALLY SHIDARE-SAN!
HE'S A GOOD PERSON!
RIGHT?

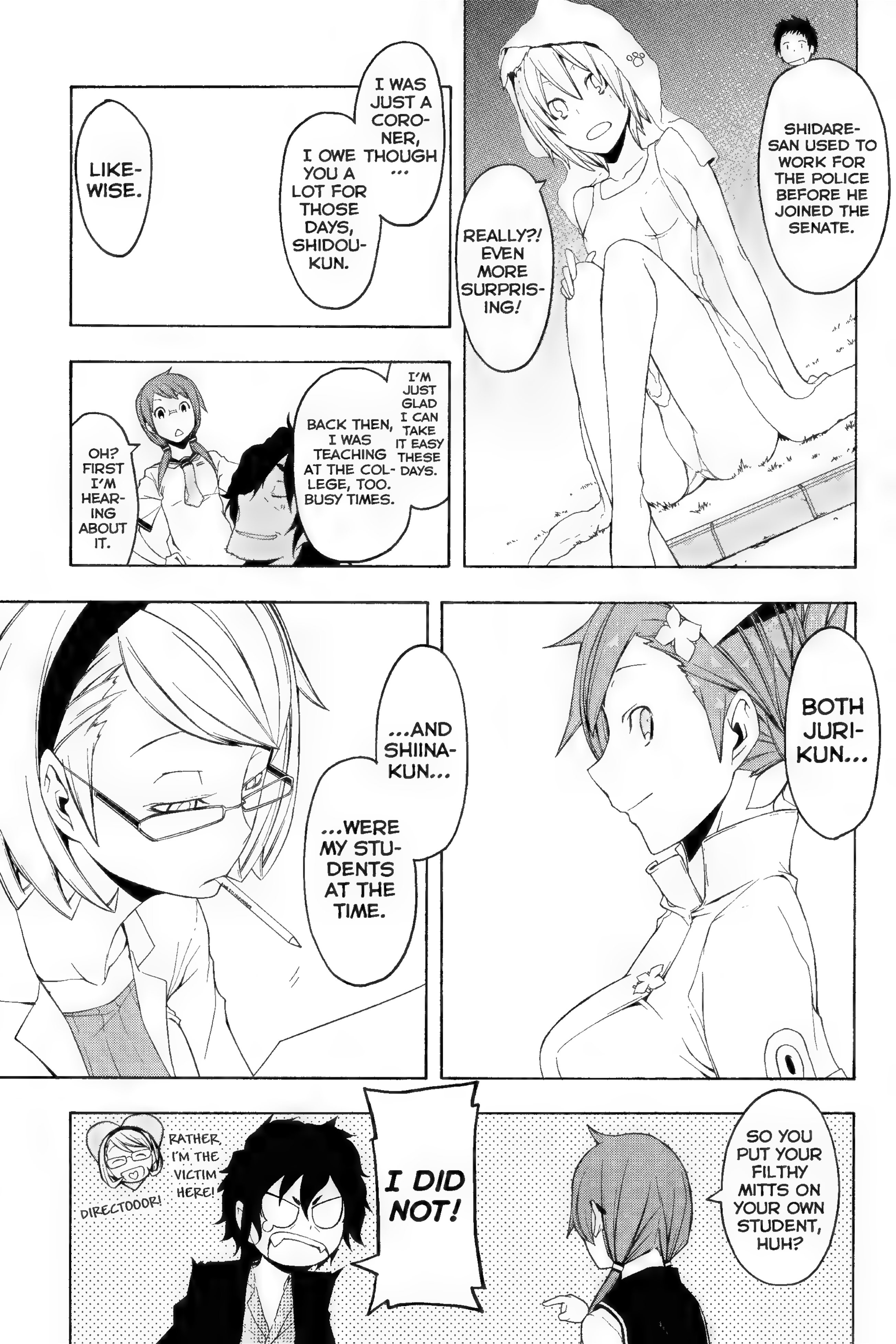

OKAY, ALL READY!
FIRST PATIENT, PLEASE.
THANKS FOR SEEING ME TODAY...

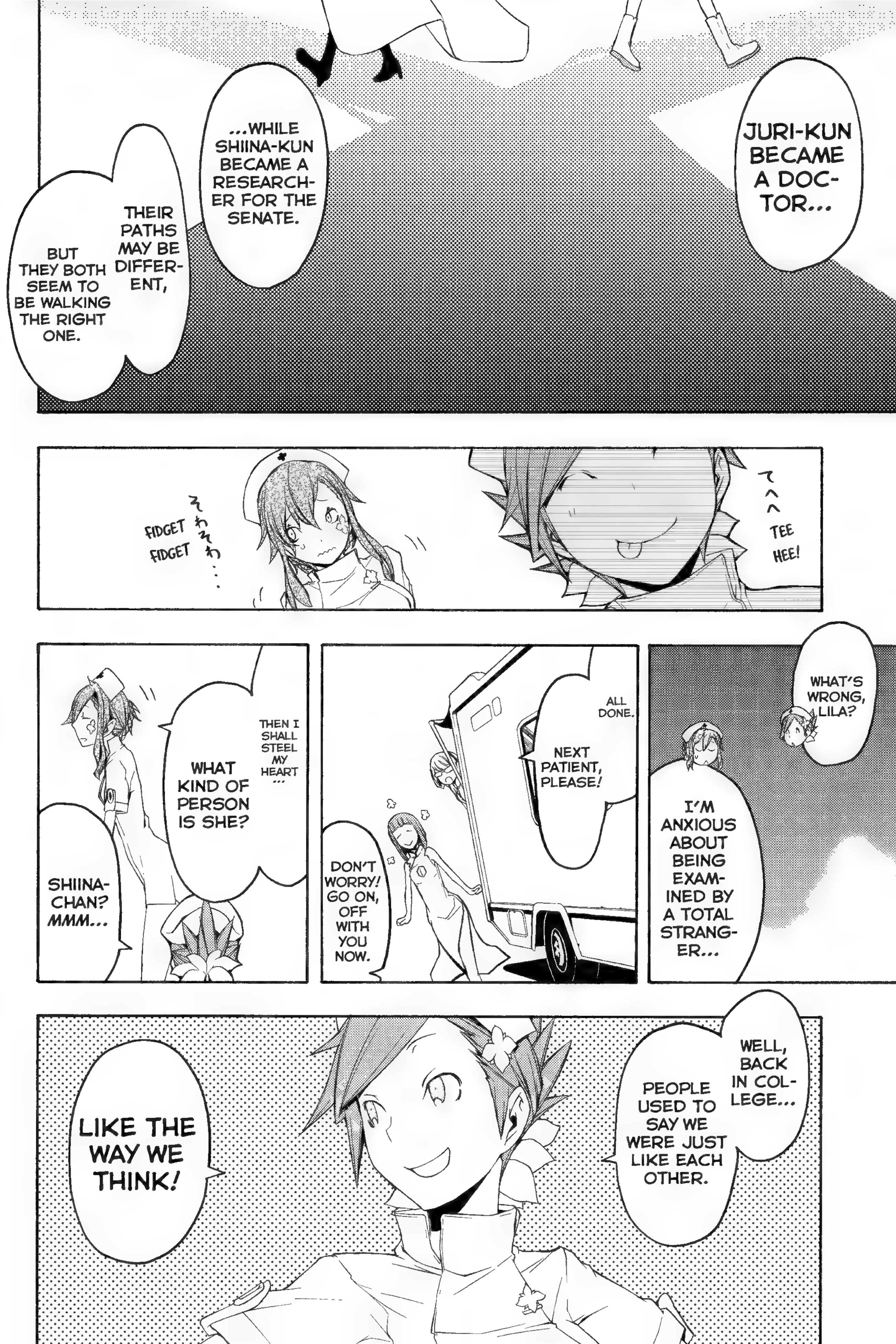

FIRST WE'LL TAKE AN X-RAY.
TAKE OFF YOUR TOP, AND PRESS YOUR CHEST TO THAT SCREEN, PLEASE.
OKAAAY.
GYAH!
!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
OH, NOTHING... IT'S JUST SO COOL AND REFRESHING.
AAAH...
I WANT TO LIVE HERE.
WELL, YOU CAN'T!
CUT THAT OUT AND STAND UP STRAIGHT!
RELAX.
TAKE A DEEP BREATH.
'KAAAAAY!
HM...
OKAY.
HOW DO I LOOK?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER.
WE STILL HAVE OTHER EXAMINATIONS LEFT.
NEXT...

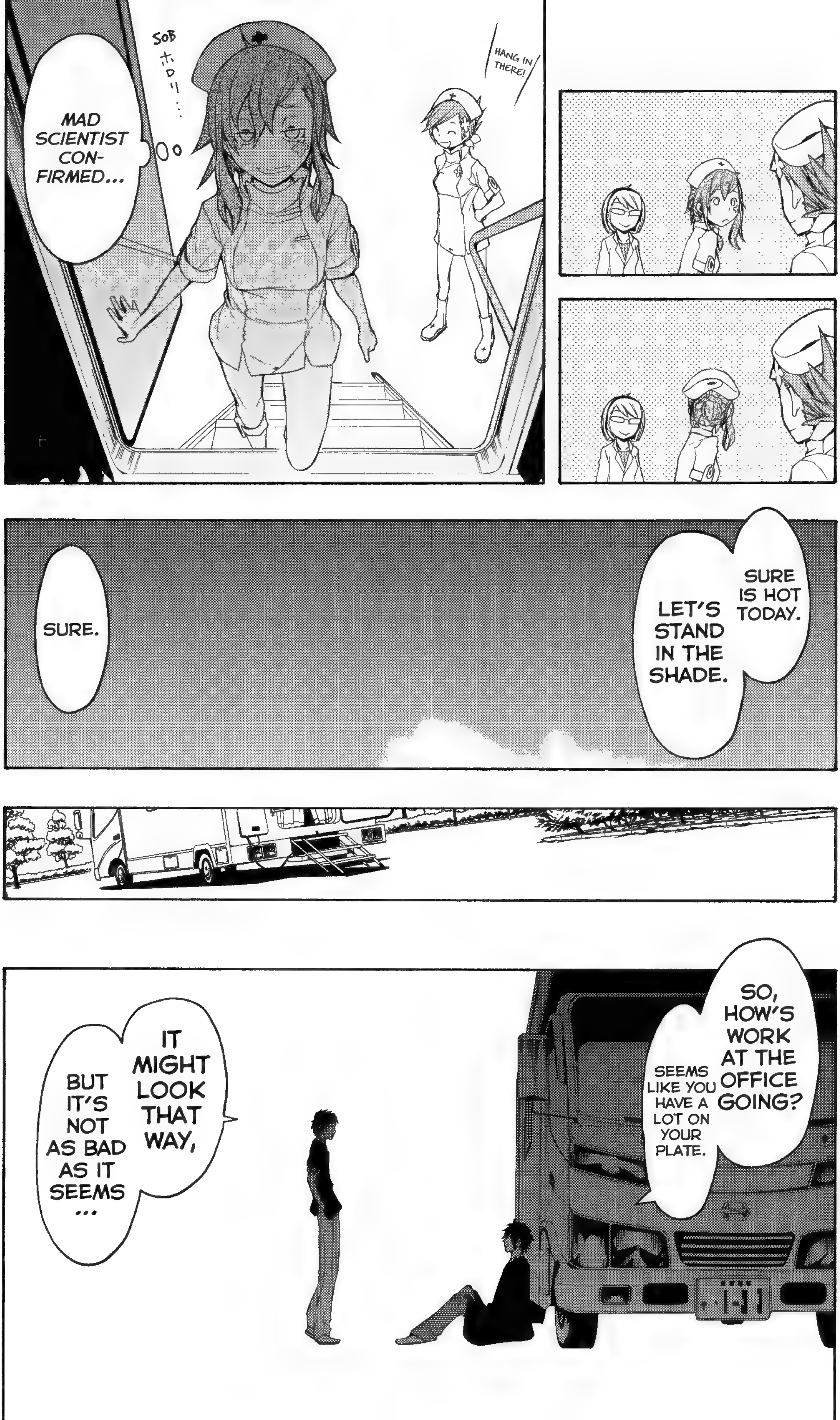

HOW HAVE YOU FELT SINCE YOUR EXORCISM?
ホニ BOING
ホニ BOING
FOOD IS TASTY!
WELL, THAT'S HEALTHY...
ANY PAIN ANYWHERE?
ホニ BOING
ホニ BOING
MMM... NOPE.
I SEE.
WELL, I HAVE A GOOD ENOUGH IDEA.
PHEW.
YOU'RE A FUSION OF BOTH HUMAN AND DEMON...
WELL, IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'RE AN EXTREMELY ORTHODOX...
...HALF-DEMON.
AAH, WELL, I EXPECTED AS MUCH.
CAN YOU TELL HOW MUCH OF ME IS DEMON AND HOW MUCH IS HUMAN?
HMM...

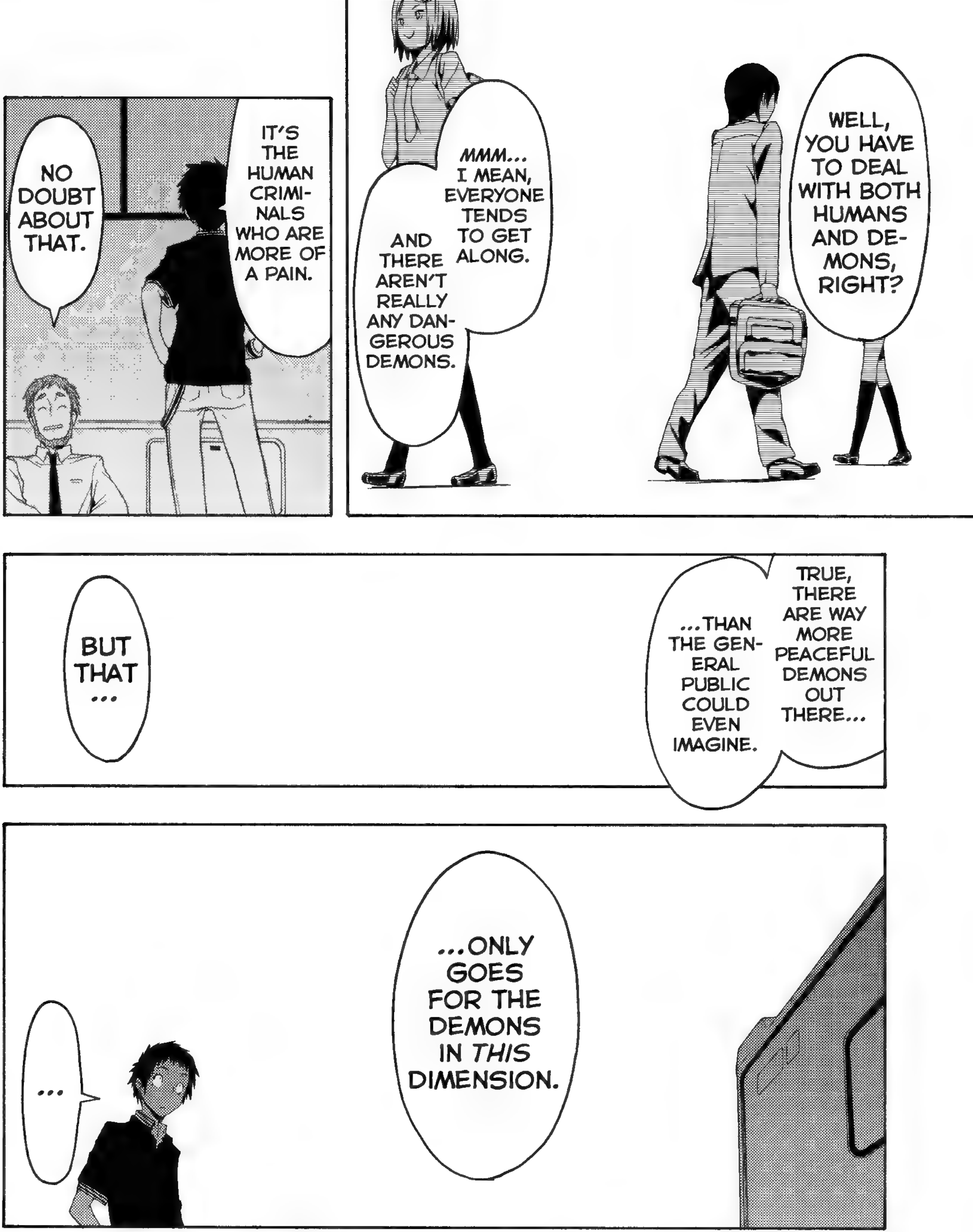

IT MAY BE A HARD CONCEPT TO COMPREHEND,
BUT IT'S NOT REALLY A MATTER OF BEING 20% HUMAN AND 80% DEMON, OR 90% HUMAN AND 10% DEMON, AND SO ON.
RATHER...
...YOU'RE BOTH 100% HUMAN...
...AND 100% DEMON.
THAT MAY BE A MORE ACCURATE EXPLANATION.
HUH...
THEN DOESN'T THAT MEAN I'M HALF BOTH?
NOT EXACTLY.
IT'S AS IF YOUR HUMAN EXISTENCE IS OVERLAID WITH YOUR DEMON EXISTENCE.
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU HAVE DOUBLE THE EXISTENCE.
GET IT?
I SEE, I UNDERSTAND NOW.
SO...


...YOU'RE TELLING ME TO GO ON A DIET.
NO!
KA THUNK
ガタガタ
元老院
SURE SOUNDS LIVELY IN THERE.
SHIDARE-SAN.
ざっ
SKF
ちゃっ
SWISH
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
HEY THERE.
YOU'RE LOOKING WELL.
THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?
RIGHT? WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT?

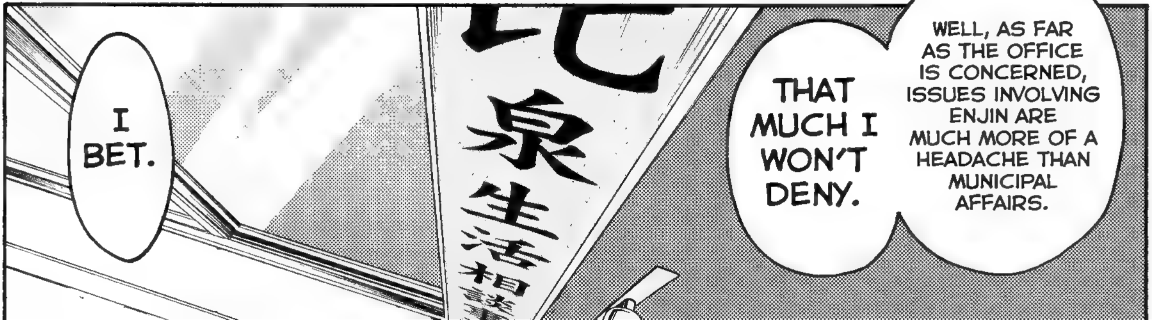

SHIDARE-SAN USED TO WORK FOR THE POLICE BEFORE HE JOINED THE SENATE.
REALLY?! EVEN MORE SURPRISING!
I WAS JUST A CORONER, THOUGH...
I OWE YOU A LOT FOR THOSE DAYS, SHIDOU-KUN.
LIKEWISE.
I'M JUST GLAD I CAN TAKE IT EASY THESE DAYS.
BACK THEN, I WAS TEACHING AT THE COLLEGE, TOO. BUSY TIMES.
OH? FIRST I'M HEARING ABOUT IT.
BOTH JURI-KUN...
...AND SHIINA-KUN...
...WERE MY STUDENTS AT THE TIME.
SO YOU PUT YOUR FILTHY MITTS ON YOUR OWN STUDENT, HUH?
I DID NOT!
RATHER, I'M THE VICTIM HERE!
DIRECTOOOR!

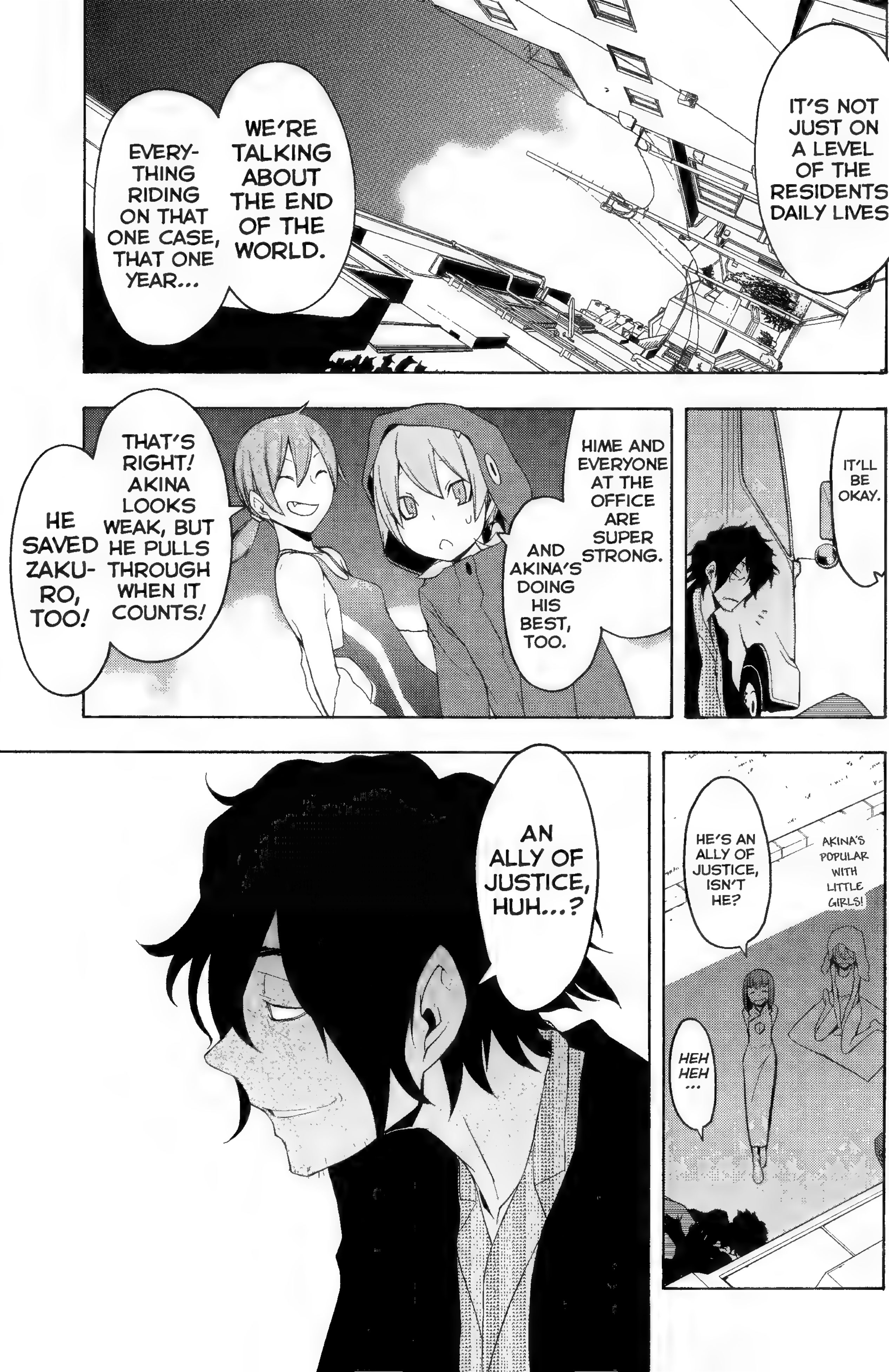

JURI-KUN BECAME A DOCTOR...
...WHILE SHIINA-KUN BECAME A RESEARCHER FOR THE SENATE.
THEIR PATHS MAY BE DIFFERENT,
BUT THEY BOTH SEEM TO BE WALKING THE RIGHT ONE.
てへへ TEE HEE!
そわそわ... FIDGET FIDGET
WHAT'S WRONG, LILA?
I'M ANXIOUS ABOUT BEING EXAMINED BY A TOTAL STRANGER...
ALL DONE.
NEXT PATIENT, PLEASE!
DON'T WORRY! GO ON, OFF WITH YOU NOW.
THEN I SHALL STEEL MY HEART...
WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS SHE?
SHIINA-CHAN? MMM...
WELL, BACK IN COLLEGE...
PEOPLE USED TO SAY WE WERE JUST LIKE EACH OTHER.
LIKE THE WAY WE THINK!

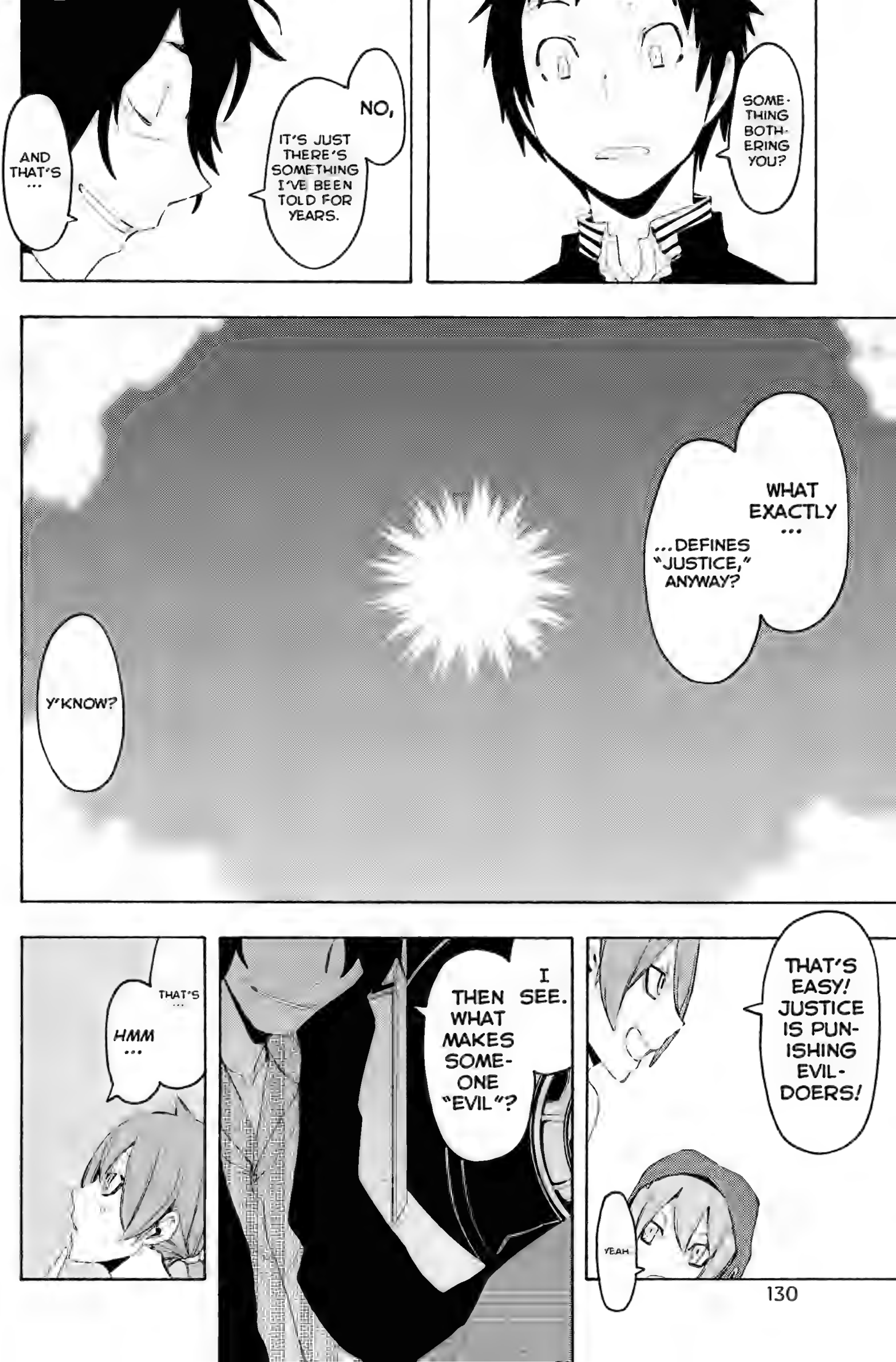

MAD SCIENTIST CON-FIRMED...
SOB ホロリ…
HANG IN THERE!
SURE IS HOT TODAY.
LET'S STAND IN THE SHADE.
SURE.
SO, HOW'S WORK AT THE OFFICE GOING?
SEEMS LIKE YOU HAVE A LOT ON YOUR PLATE.
IT MIGHT LOOK THAT WAY,
BUT IT'S NOT AS BAD AS IT SEEMS...

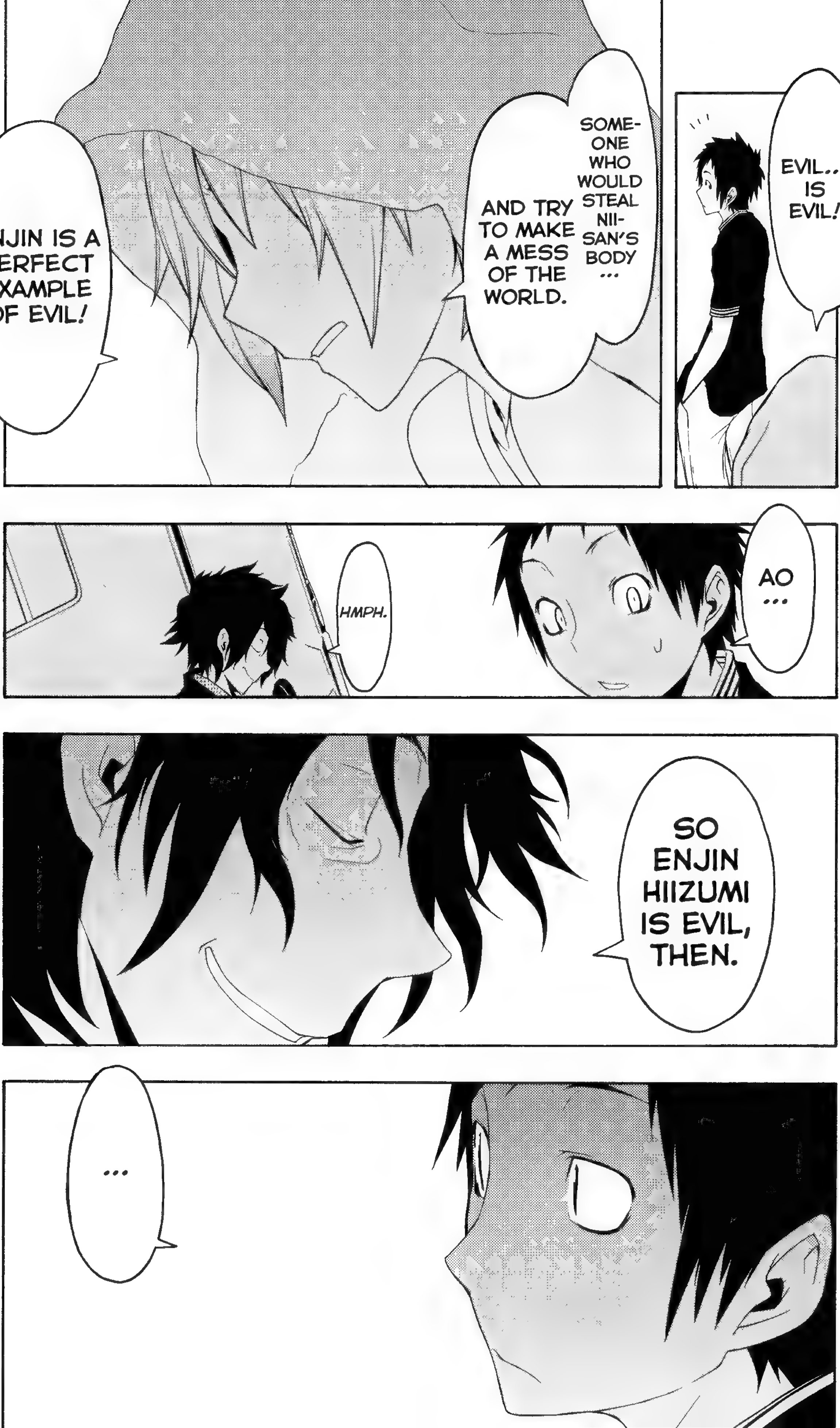

WELL, YOU HAVE TO DEAL WITH BOTH HUMANS AND DEMONS, RIGHT?
MMM... I MEAN, EVERYONE TENDS TO GET ALONG.
AND THERE AREN'T REALLY ANY DANGEROUS DEMONS.
IT'S THE HUMAN CRIMINALS WHO ARE MORE OF A PAIN.
NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT.
TRUE, THERE ARE WAY MORE PEACEFUL DEMONS OUT THERE...
...THAN THE GENERAL PUBLIC COULD EVEN IMAGINE.
BUT THAT...
...ONLY GOES FOR THE DEMONS IN *THIS* DIMENSION.
...

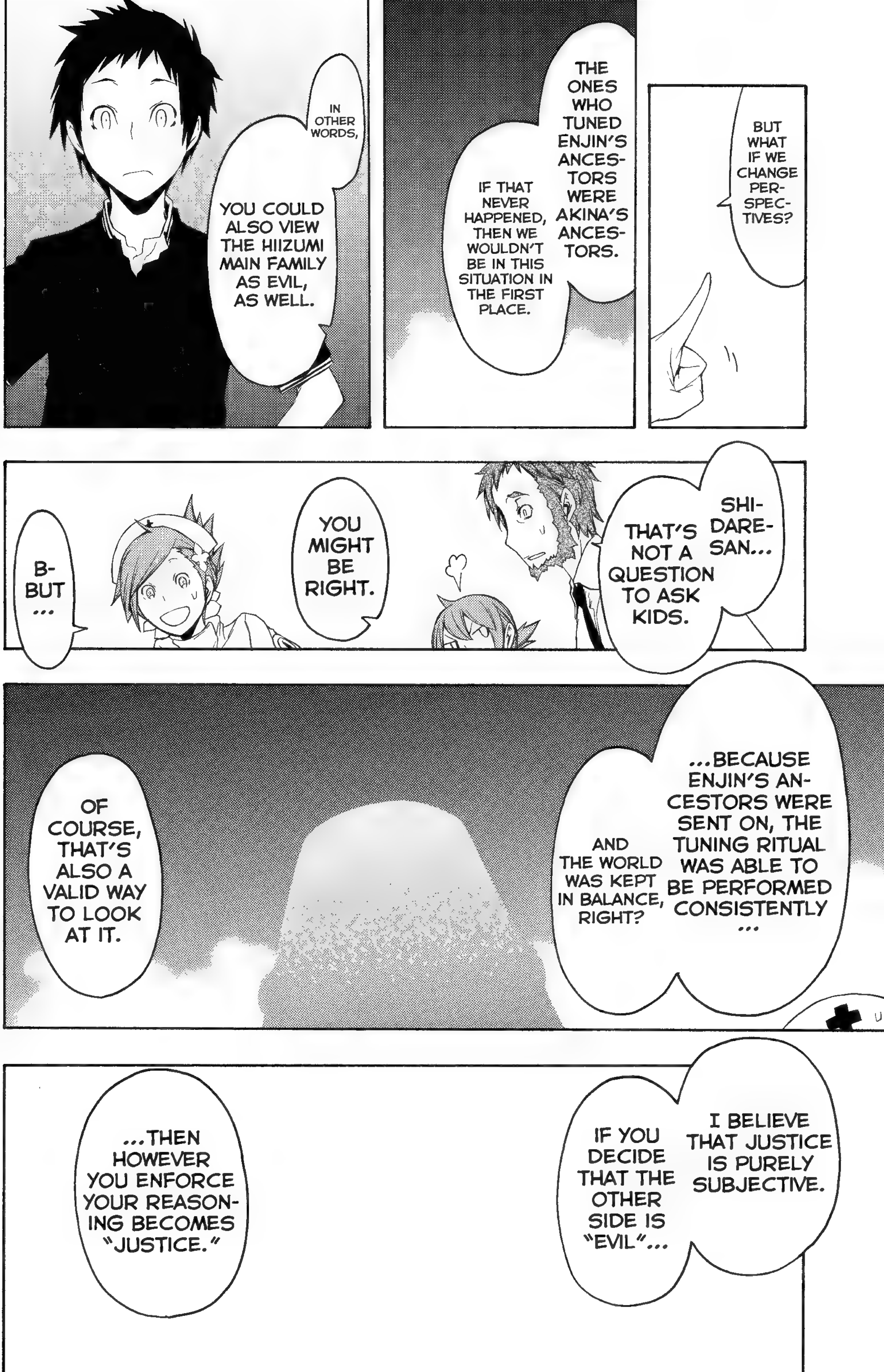
Sign: Hiizumi Life Counseling Office

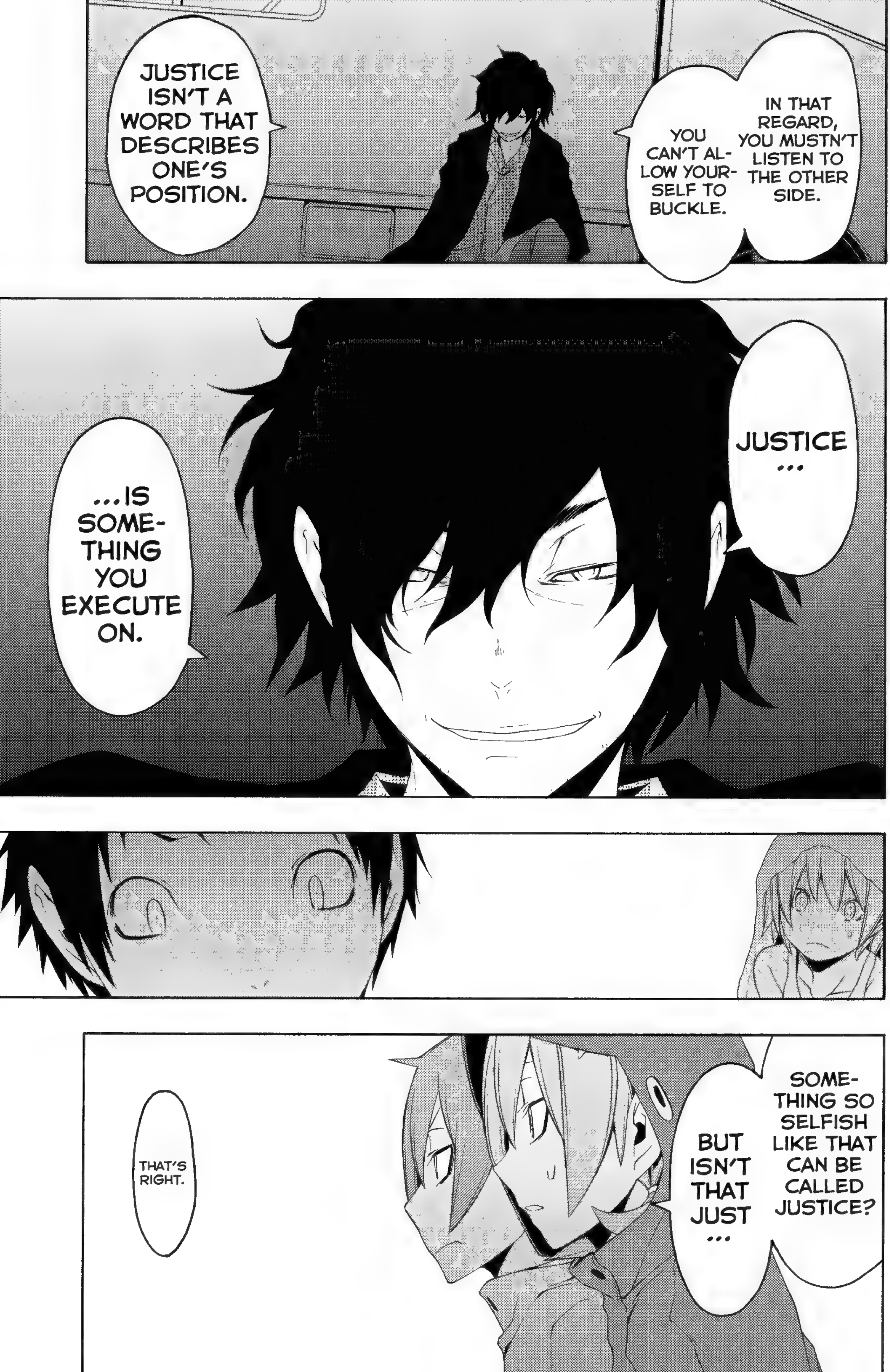

WELL, AS FAR AS THE OFFICE IS CONCERNED, ISSUES INVOLVING ENJIN ARE MUCH MORE OF A HEADACHE THAN MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.
THAT MUCH I WON'T DENY.
泉生活
I BET.

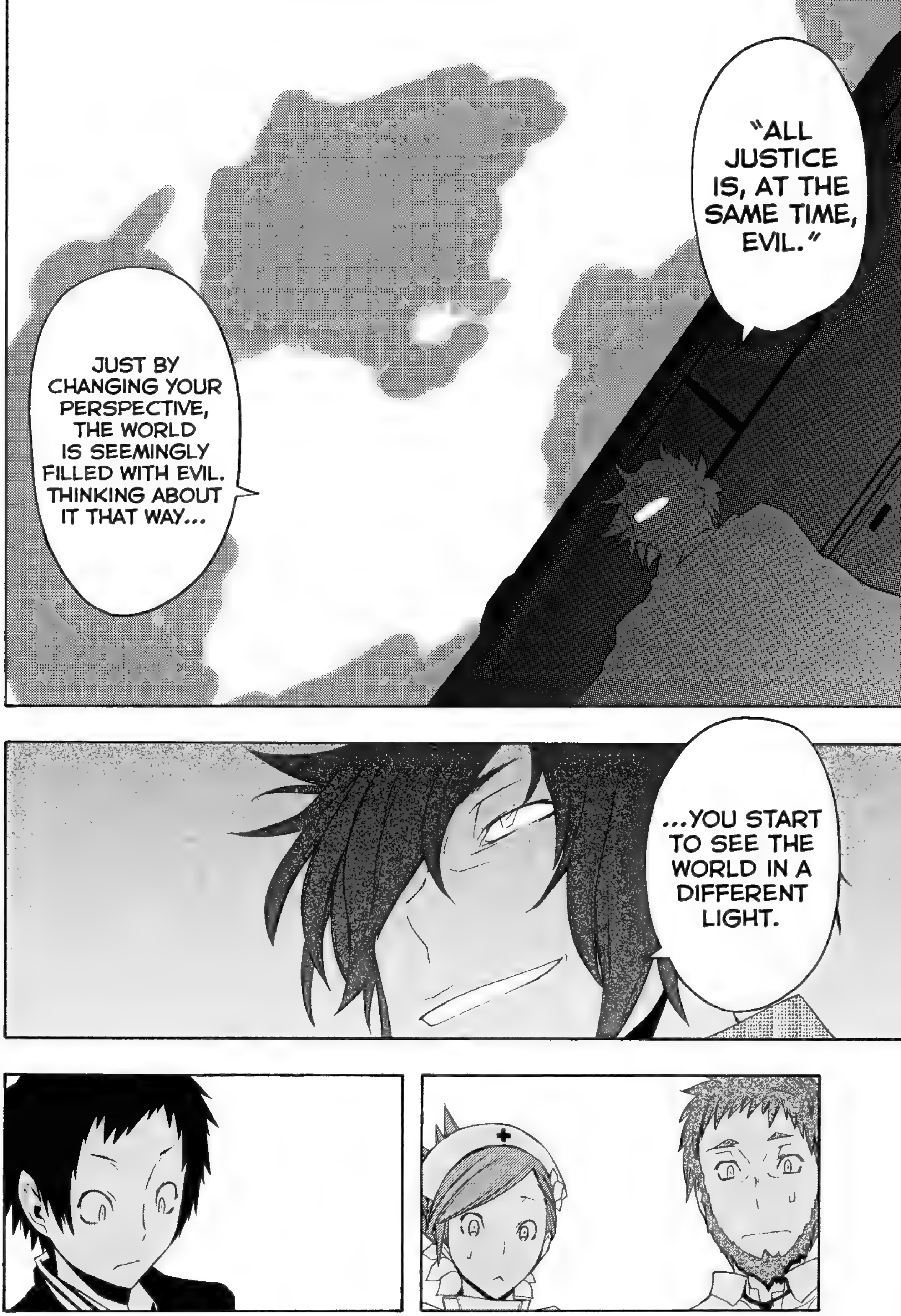

IT'S NOT JUST ON A LEVEL OF THE RESIDENTS' DAILY LIVES.
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE END OF THE WORLD.
EVERYTHING RIDING ON THAT ONE CASE, THAT ONE YEAR...
IT'LL BE OKAY.
HIME AND EVERYONE AT THE OFFICE ARE SUPER STRONG.
AND AKINA'S DOING HIS BEST, TOO.
THAT'S RIGHT! AKINA LOOKS WEAK, BUT HE PULLS THROUGH WHEN IT COUNTS!
HE SAVED ZAKURO, TOO!
HE'S AN ALLY OF JUSTICE, ISN'T HE?
AKINA'S POPULAR WITH LITTLE GIRLS!
HEH HEH...
AN ALLY OF JUSTICE, HUH...?

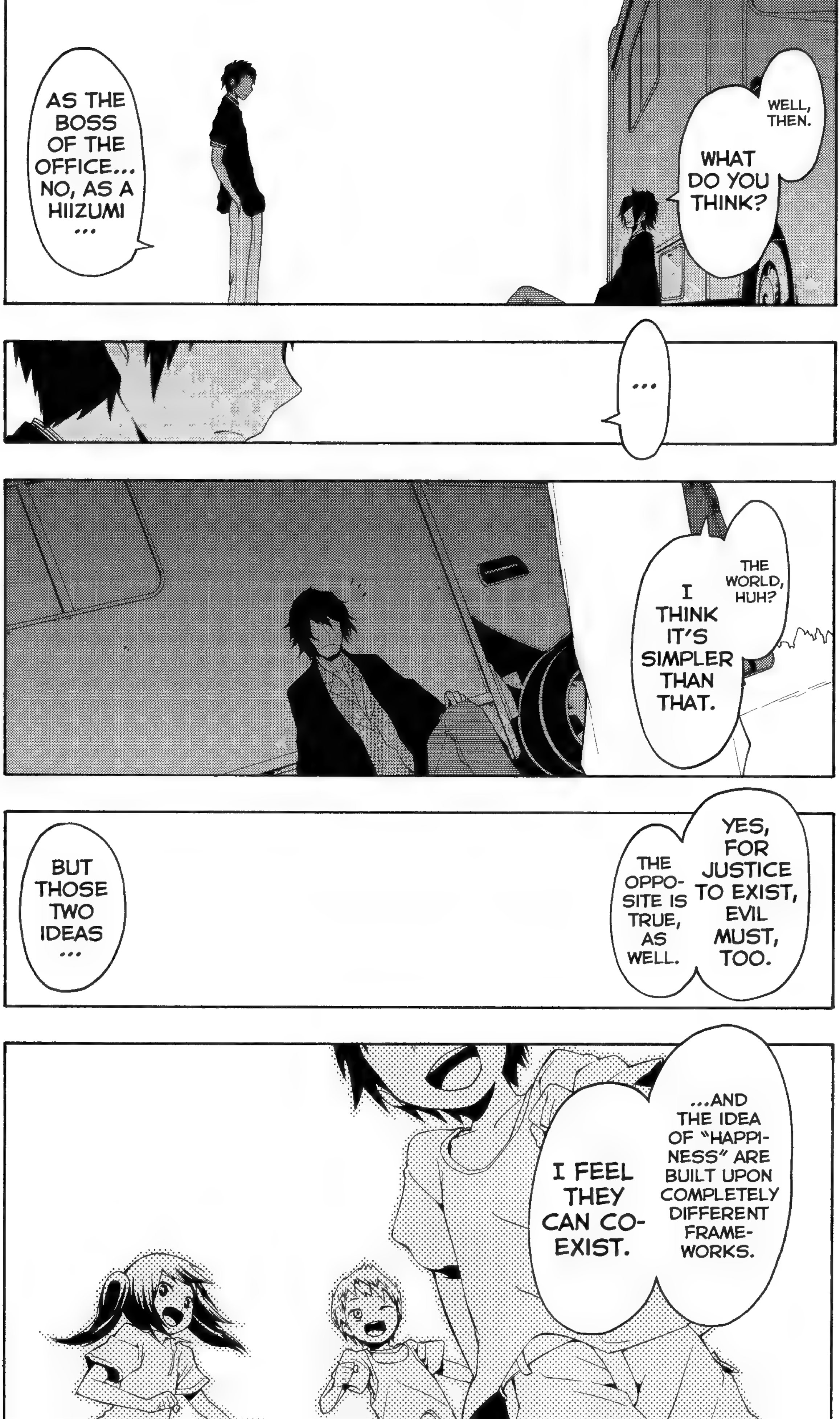

SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU?
NO,
IT'S JUST THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN TOLD FOR YEARS.
AND THAT'S ...
WHAT EXACTLY ...
...DEFINES "JUSTICE," ANYWAY?
Y'KNOW?
THAT'S EASY! JUSTICE IS PUNISHING EVILDOERS!
YEAH
I SEE.
THEN WHAT MAKES SOMEONE "EVIL"?
THAT'S ...
HMM ...

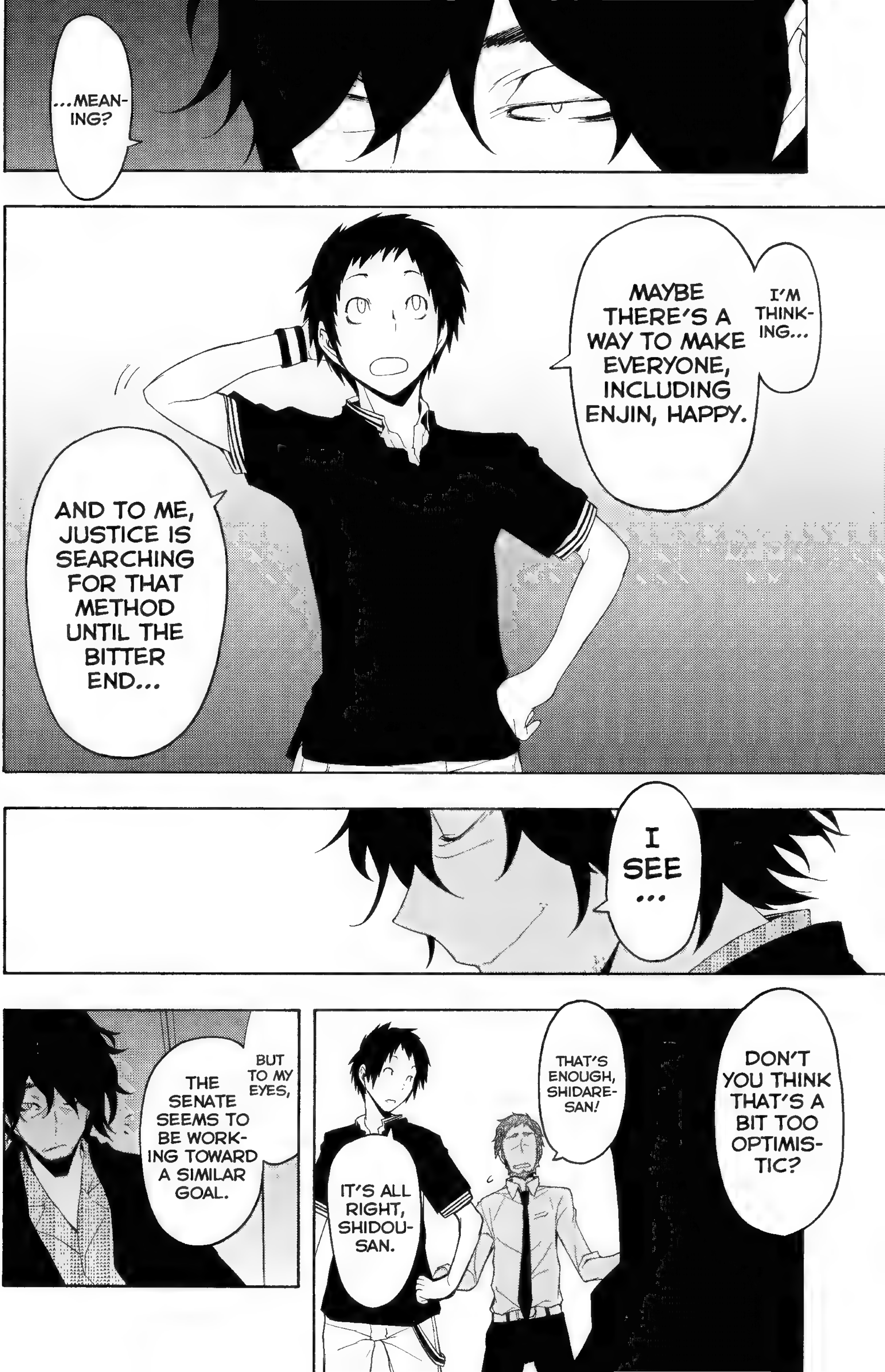

EVIL... IS EVIL!
SOMEONE WHO WOULD STEAL NII-SAN'S BODY...
AND TRY TO MAKE A MESS OF THE WORLD.
ENJIN IS A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF EVIL!
AO...
HMPH.
SO ENJIN HIIZUMI IS EVIL, THEN.
...

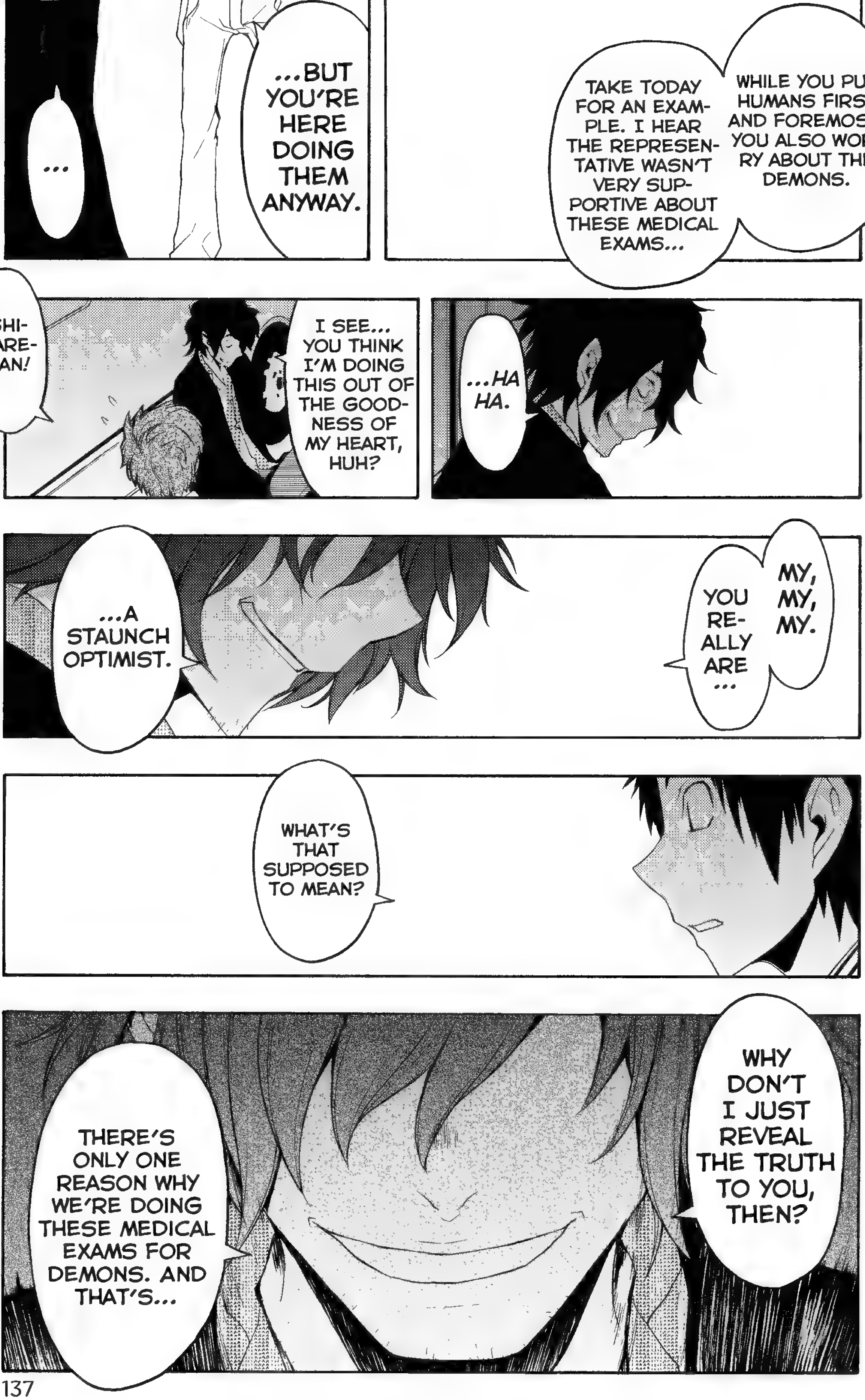

BUT WHAT IF WE CHANGE PERSPECTIVES?
THE ONES WHO TUNED ENJIN'S ANCESTORS WERE AKINA'S ANCESTORS.
IF THAT NEVER HAPPENED, THEN WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS SITUATION IN THE FIRST PLACE.
IN OTHER WORDS,
YOU COULD ALSO VIEW THE HIIZUMI MAIN FAMILY AS EVIL, AS WELL.
SHIDARE-SAN...
THAT'S NOT A QUESTION TO ASK KIDS.
YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT.
B-BUT...
...BECAUSE ENJIN'S ANCESTORS WERE SENT ON, THE TUNING RITUAL WAS ABLE TO BE PERFORMED CONSISTENTLY...
AND THE WORLD WAS KEPT IN BALANCE, RIGHT?
OF COURSE, THAT'S ALSO A VALID WAY TO LOOK AT IT.
I BELIEVE THAT JUSTICE IS PURELY SUBJECTIVE.
IF YOU DECIDE THAT THE OTHER SIDE IS "EVIL"...
...THEN HOWEVER YOU ENFORCE YOUR REASONING BECOMES "JUSTICE."

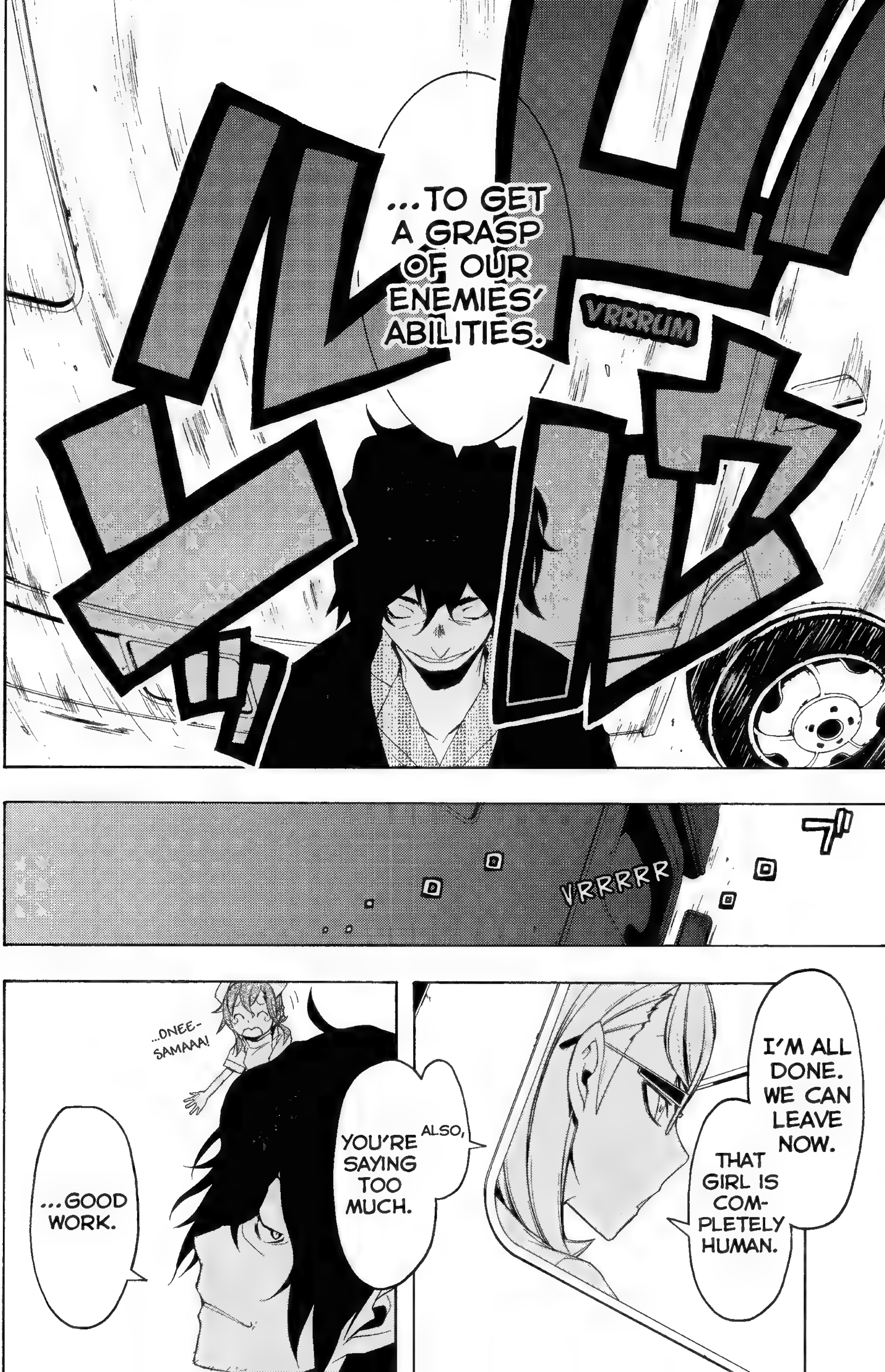

IN THAT REGARD, YOU MUSTN'T LISTEN TO THE OTHER SIDE.
YOU CAN'T ALLOW YOURSELF TO BUCKLE.
JUSTICE ISN'T A WORD THAT DESCRIBES ONE'S POSITION.
JUSTICE...
...IS SOMETHING YOU EXECUTE ON.
SOMETHING SO SELFISH LIKE THAT CAN BE CALLED JUSTICE?
BUT ISN'T THAT JUST...
THAT'S RIGHT.

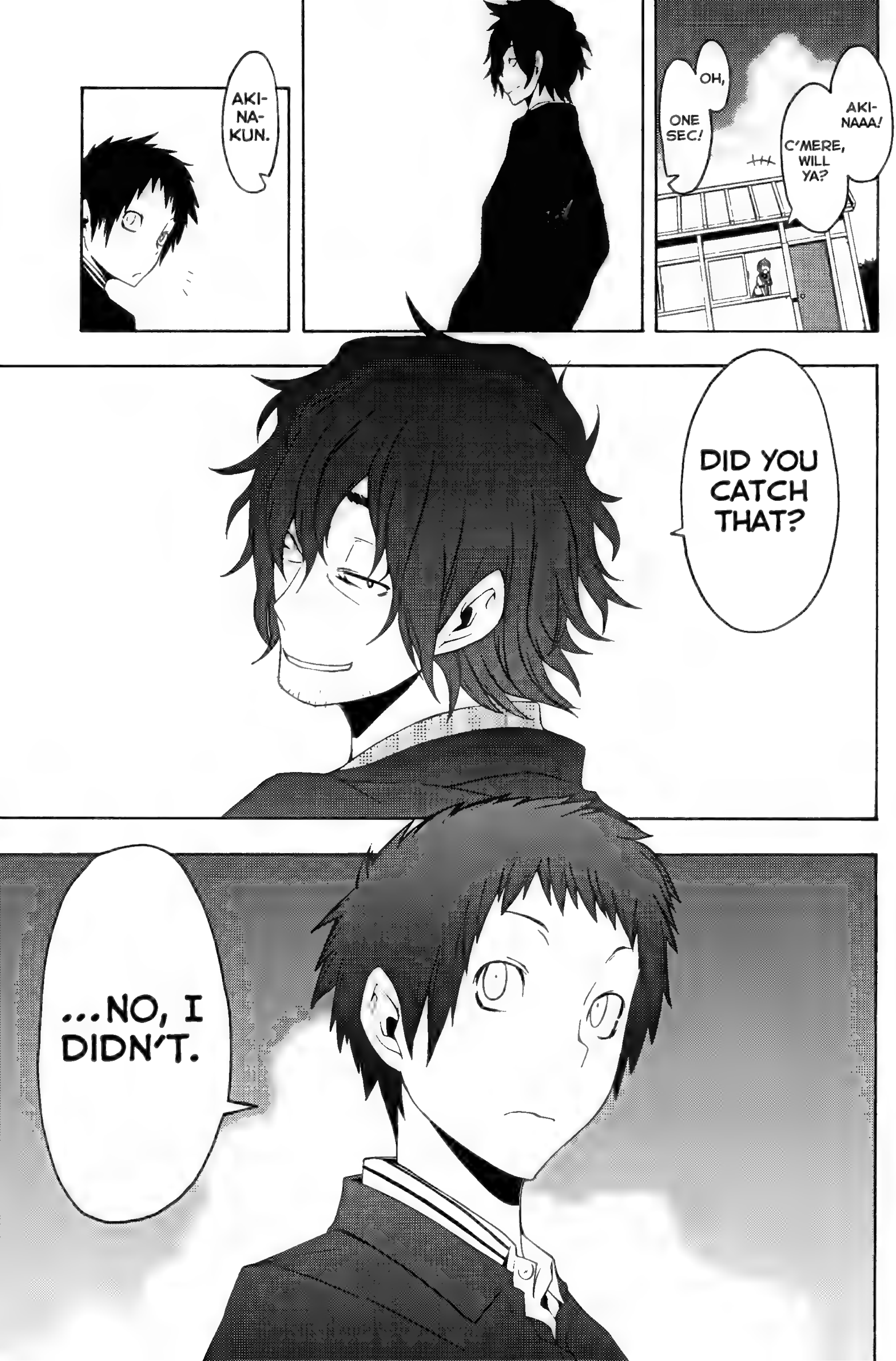

"ALL JUSTICE IS, AT THE SAME TIME, EVIL."
JUST BY CHANGING YOUR PERSPECTIVE, THE WORLD IS SEEMINGLY FILLED WITH EVIL. THINKING ABOUT IT THAT WAY...
...YOU START TO SEE THE WORLD IN A DIFFERENT LIGHT.

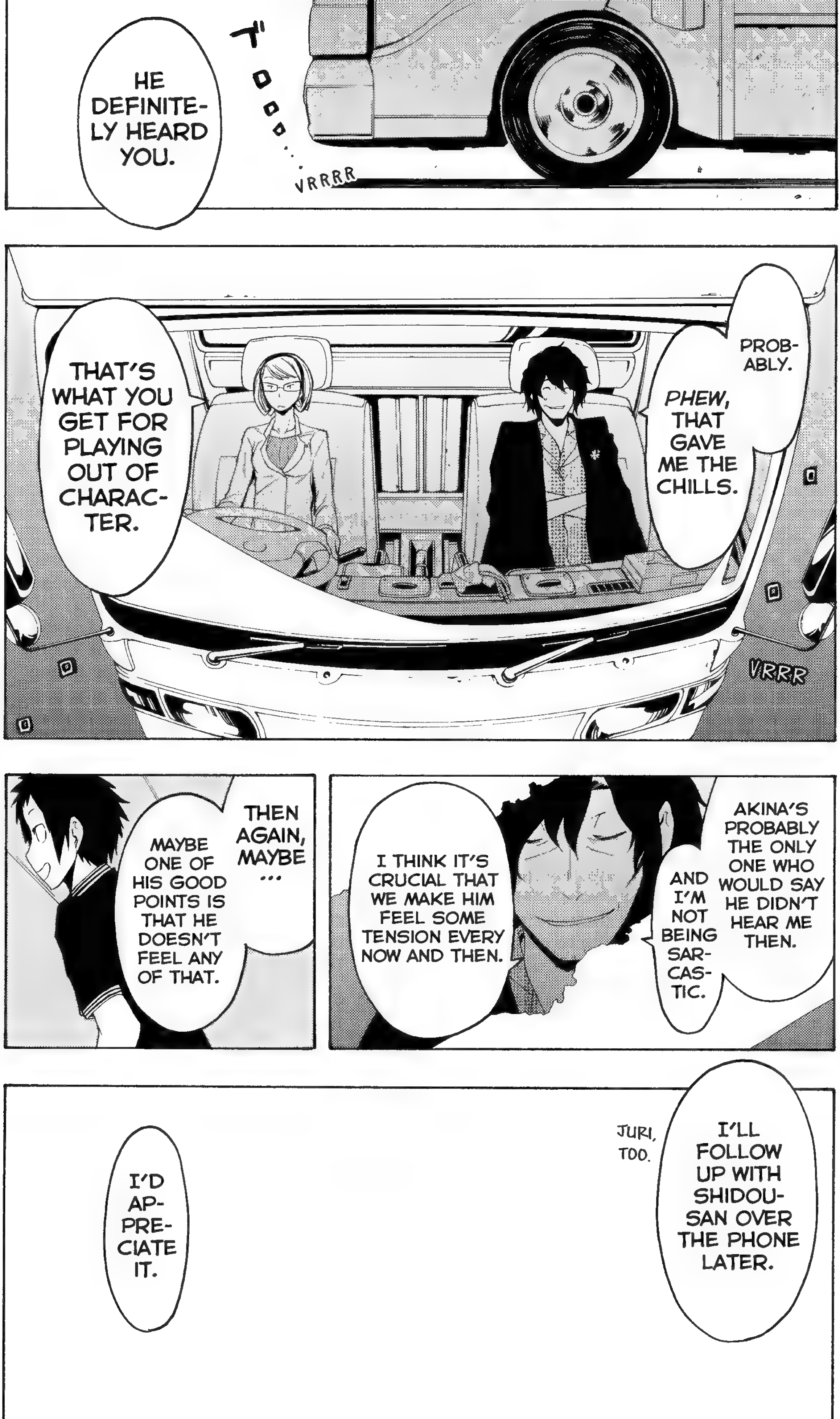

WELL, THEN. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
AS THE BOSS OF THE OFFICE... NO, AS A HIIZUMI...
...
THE WORLD, HUH?
I THINK IT'S SIMPLER THAN THAT.
YES, FOR JUSTICE TO EXIST, EVIL MUST, TOO.
THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE, AS WELL.
BUT THOSE TWO IDEAS...
...AND THE IDEA OF "HAPPINESS" ARE BUILT UPON COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FRAMEWORKS.
I FEEL THEY CAN CO-EXIST.

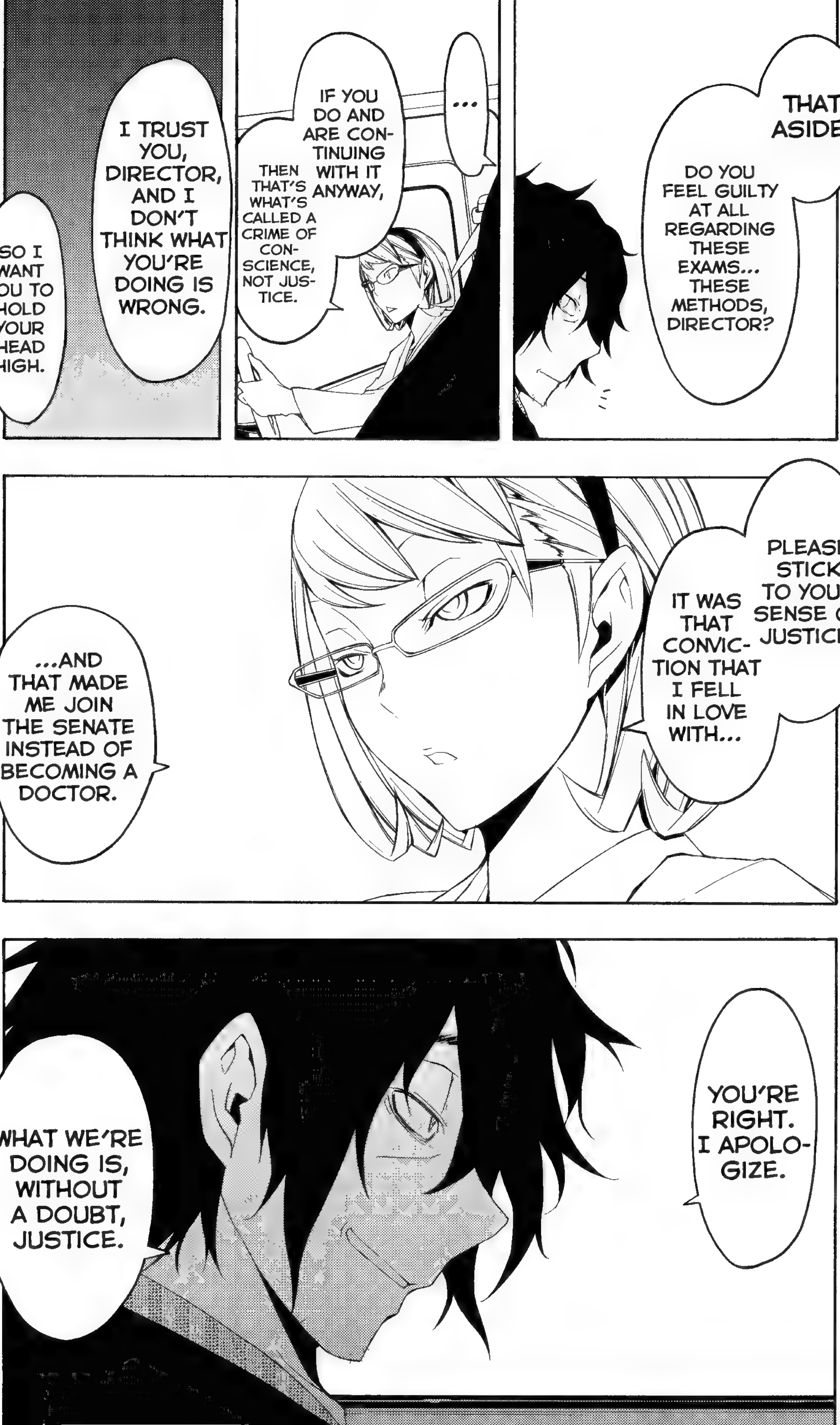

...MEANING?
I'M THINKING...
MAYBE THERE'S A WAY TO MAKE EVERYONE, INCLUDING ENJIN, HAPPY.
AND TO ME, JUSTICE IS SEARCHING FOR THAT METHOD UNTIL THE BITTER END...
I SEE...
BUT TO MY EYES,
THE SENATE SEEMS TO BE WORKING TOWARD A SIMILAR GOAL.
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A BIT TOO OPTIMISTIC?
THAT'S ENOUGH, SHIDARE-SAN!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, SHIDOU-SAN.

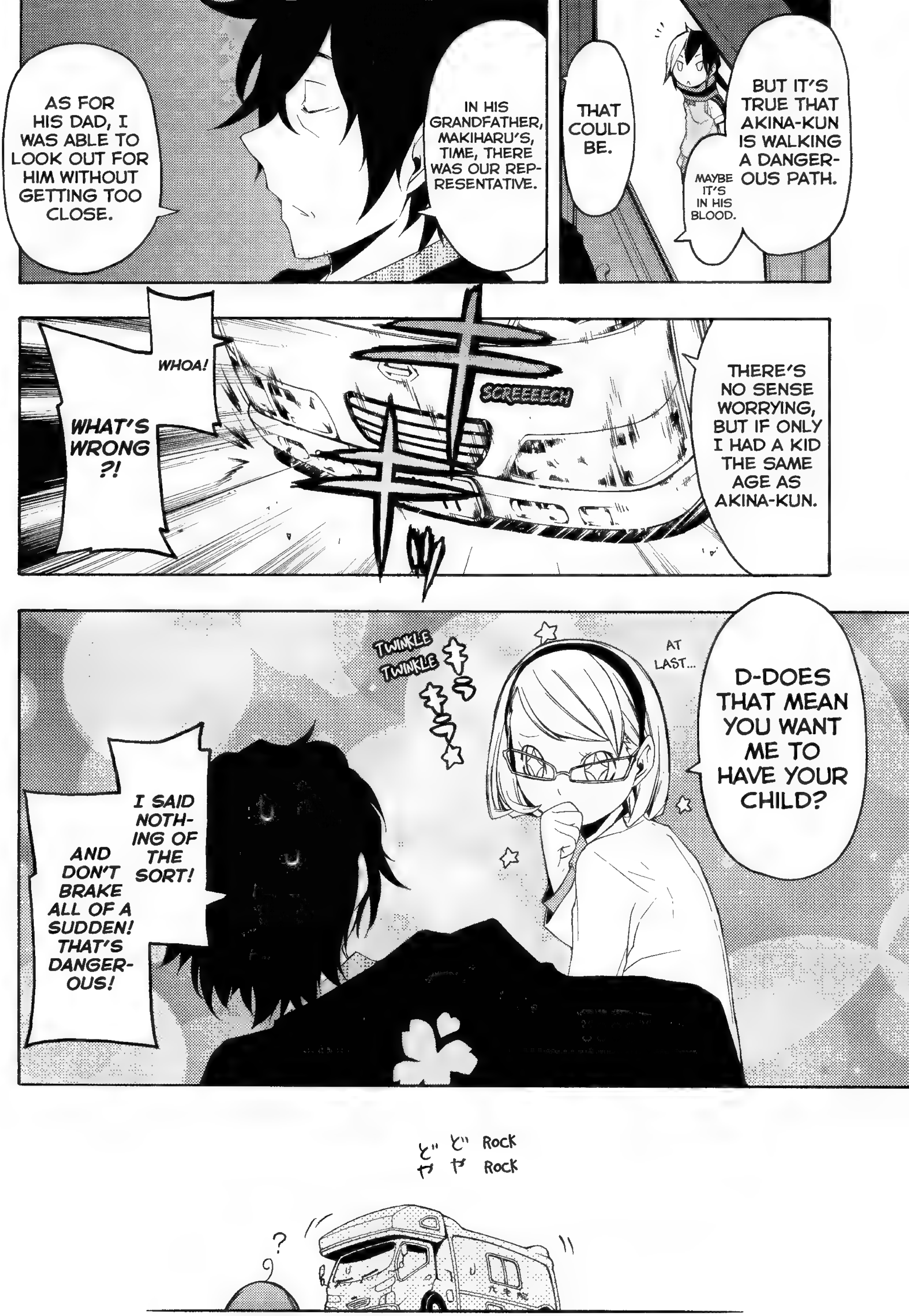

WHILE YOU PUT HUMANS FIRST AND FOREMOST, YOU ALSO WORRY ABOUT THE DEMONS.
TAKE TODAY FOR AN EXAMPLE. I HEAR THE REPRESENTATIVE WASN'T VERY SUPPORTIVE ABOUT THESE MEDICAL EXAMS...
...BUT YOU'RE HERE DOING THEM ANYWAY.
...
...HA HA.
I SEE... YOU THINK I'M DOING THIS OUT OF THE GOODNESS OF MY HEART, HUH?
SHIDARE-SAN!
MY, MY, MY.
YOU REALLY ARE...
...A STAUNCH OPTIMIST.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
WHY DON'T I JUST REVEAL THE TRUTH TO YOU, THEN?
THERE'S ONLY ONE REASON WHY WE'RE DOING THESE MEDICAL EXAMS FOR DEMONS. AND THAT'S...


...TO GET A GRASP OF OUR ENEMIES' ABILITIES.
VRRRUM
VRRRRR
I'M ALL DONE. WE CAN LEAVE NOW.
THAT GIRL IS COMPLETELY HUMAN.
...ONEE-SAMAAA!
ALSO,
YOU'RE SAYING TOO MUCH.
...GOOD WORK.


AKI-NAAA! C'MERE, WILL YA?
OH, ONE SEC!
AKI-NA-KUN.
DID YOU CATCH THAT?
...NO, I DIDN'T.

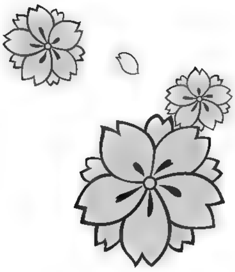

HE DEFINITELY HEARD YOU.
ブロロロ…
VRRRR
PROBABLY.
PHEW, THAT GAVE ME THE CHILLS.
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR PLAYING OUT OF CHARACTER.
VRRR
AKINA'S PROBABLY THE ONLY ONE WHO WOULD SAY HE DIDN'T HEAR ME THEN.
AND I'M NOT BEING SARCASTIC.
I THINK IT'S CRUCIAL THAT WE MAKE HIM FEEL SOME TENSION EVERY NOW AND THEN.
THEN AGAIN, MAYBE…
MAYBE ONE OF HIS GOOD POINTS IS THAT HE DOESN'T FEEL ANY OF THAT.
I'LL FOLLOW UP WITH SHIDOU-SAN OVER THE PHONE LATER.
JURI, TOO.
I'D APPRECIATE IT.


THAT ASIDE,
DO YOU FEEL GUILTY AT ALL REGARDING THESE EXAMS... THESE METHODS, DIRECTOR?
...
IF YOU DO AND ARE CONTINUING WITH IT ANYWAY,
THEN THAT'S WHAT'S CALLED A CRIME OF CONSCIENCE, NOT JUSTICE.
I TRUST YOU, DIRECTOR, AND I DON'T THINK WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS WRONG.
SO I WANT YOU TO HOLD YOUR HEAD HIGH.
PLEASE STICK TO YOUR SENSE OF JUSTICE.
IT WAS THAT CONVICTION THAT I FELL IN LOVE WITH...
...AND THAT MADE ME JOIN THE SENATE INSTEAD OF BECOMING A DOCTOR.
YOU'RE RIGHT. I APOLOGIZE.
WHAT WE'RE DOING IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, JUSTICE.

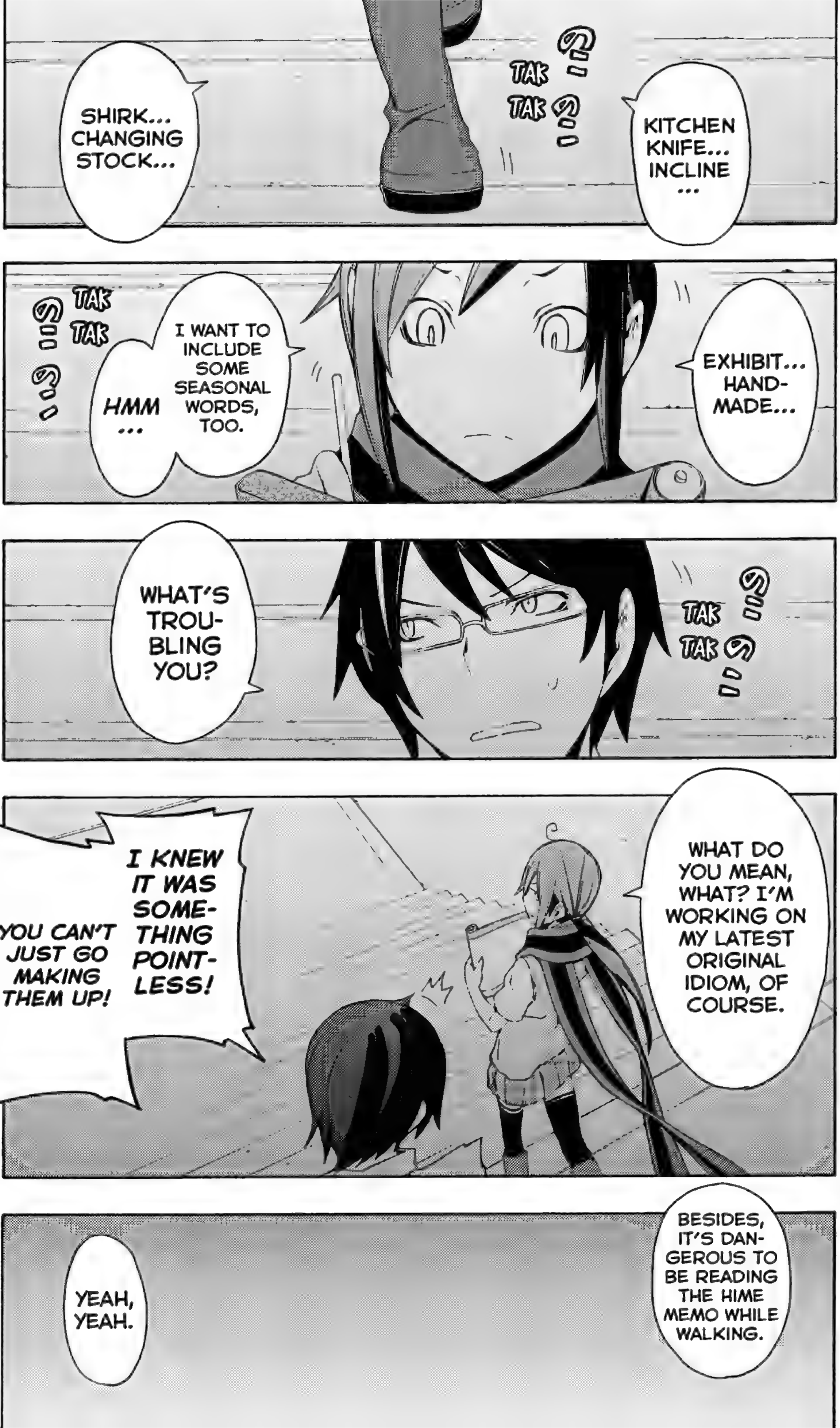

BUT IT'S TRUE THAT AKINA-KUN IS WALKING A DANGEROUS PATH.
MAYBE IT'S IN HIS BLOOD.
THAT COULD BE.
IN HIS GRANDFATHER, MAKIHARU'S, TIME, THERE WAS OUR REPRESENTATIVE.
AS FOR HIS DAD, I WAS ABLE TO LOOK OUT FOR HIM WITHOUT GETTING TOO CLOSE.
THERE'S NO SENSE WORRYING, BUT IF ONLY I HAD A KID THE SAME AGE AS AKINA-KUN.
SCREEEECH
WHOA!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
AT LAST...
D-DOES THAT MEAN YOU WANT ME TO HAVE YOUR CHILD?
TWINKLE TWINKLE
キラキラ
I SAID NOTHING OF THE SORT!
AND DON'T BRAKE ALL OF A SUDDEN! THAT'S DANGEROUS!
どやどや
Rock Rock
?

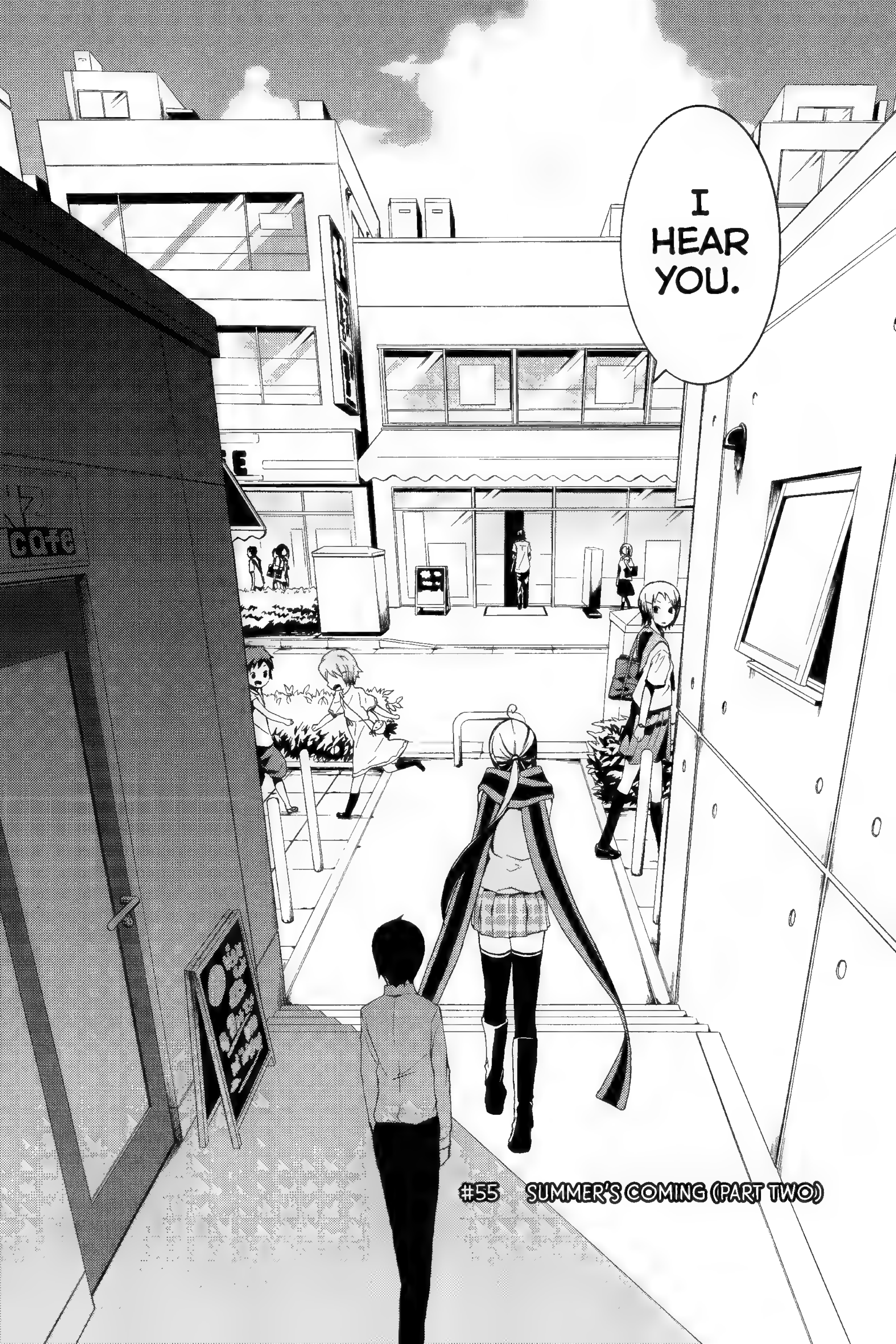
54TH NIGHT SUMMER'S COMING (PART ONE) END

YOZAKURA QUARTET
10

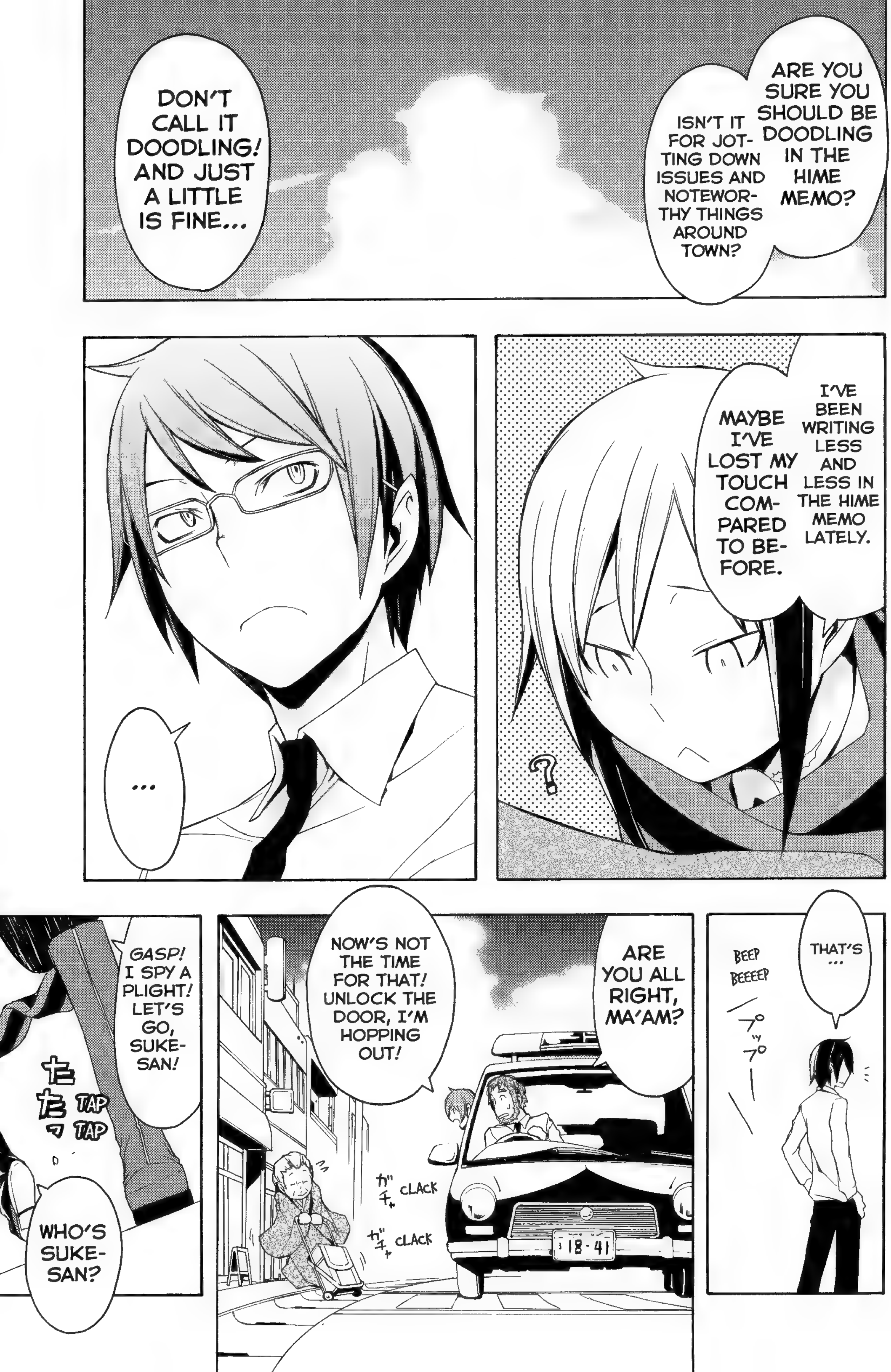


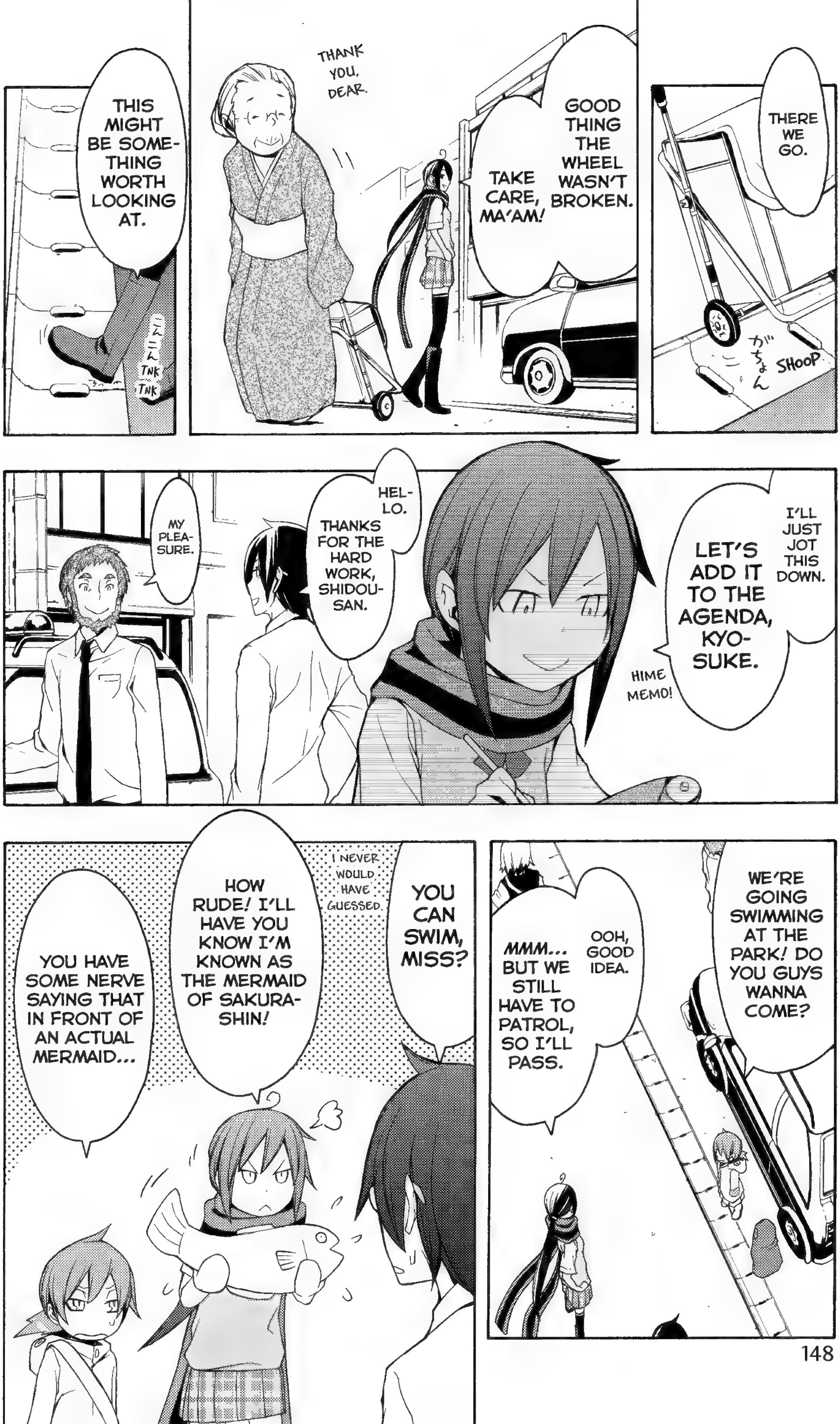
PHEW... I SWAM A BUNCH.
WHAT ABOUT WORK?

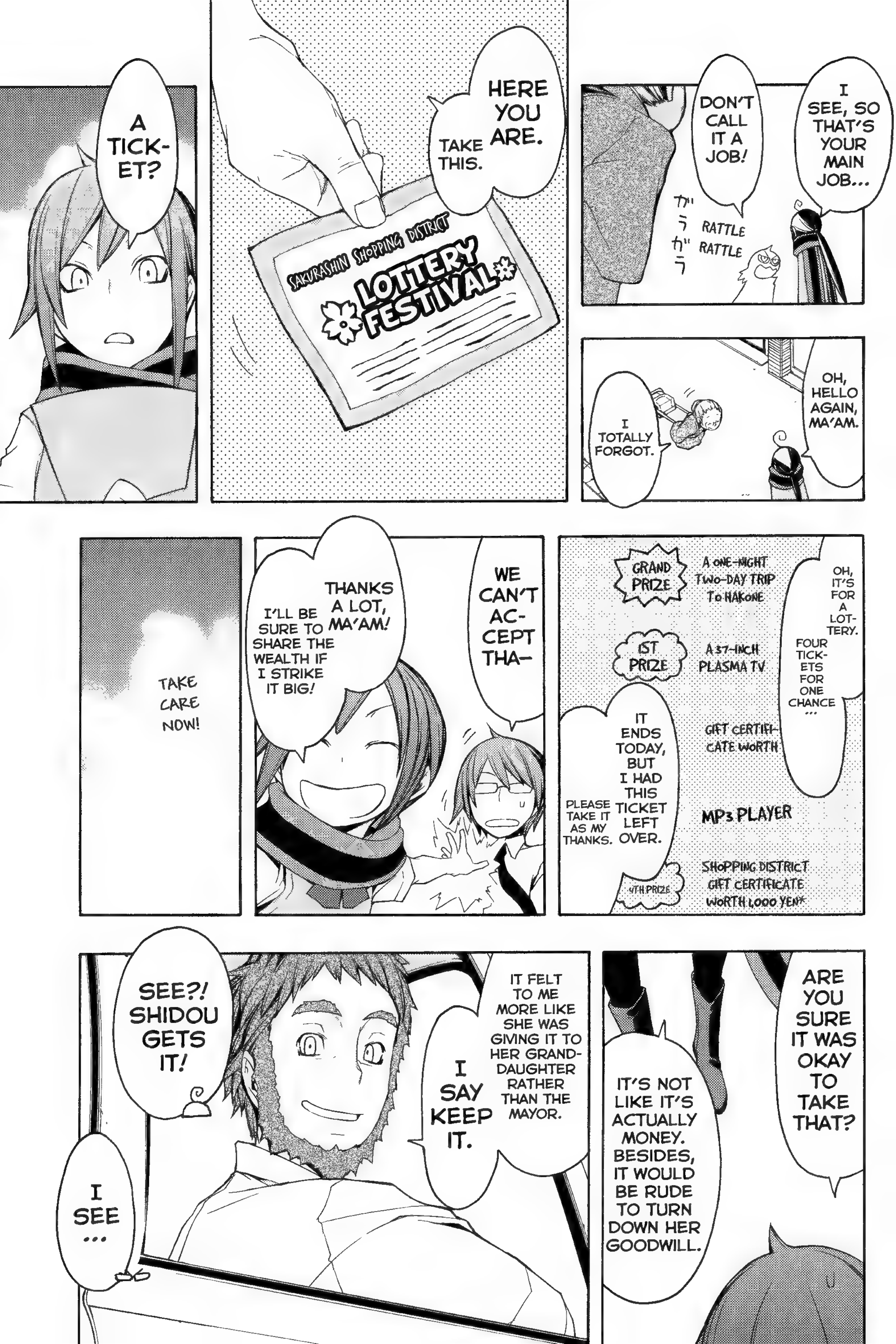

KITCHEN KNIFE... INCLINE ...
TAK TAK
SHIRK... CHANGING STOCK...
EXHIBIT... HANDMADE...
I WANT TO INCLUDE SOME SEASONAL WORDS, TOO.
HMM ...
TAK TAK
TAK TAK
WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WHAT? I'M WORKING ON MY LATEST ORIGINAL IDIOM, OF COURSE.
I KNEW IT WAS SOMETHING POINTLESS!
YOU CAN'T JUST GO MAKING THEM UP!
BESIDES, IT'S DANGEROUS TO BE READING THE HIME MEMO WHILE WALKING.
YEAH, YEAH.

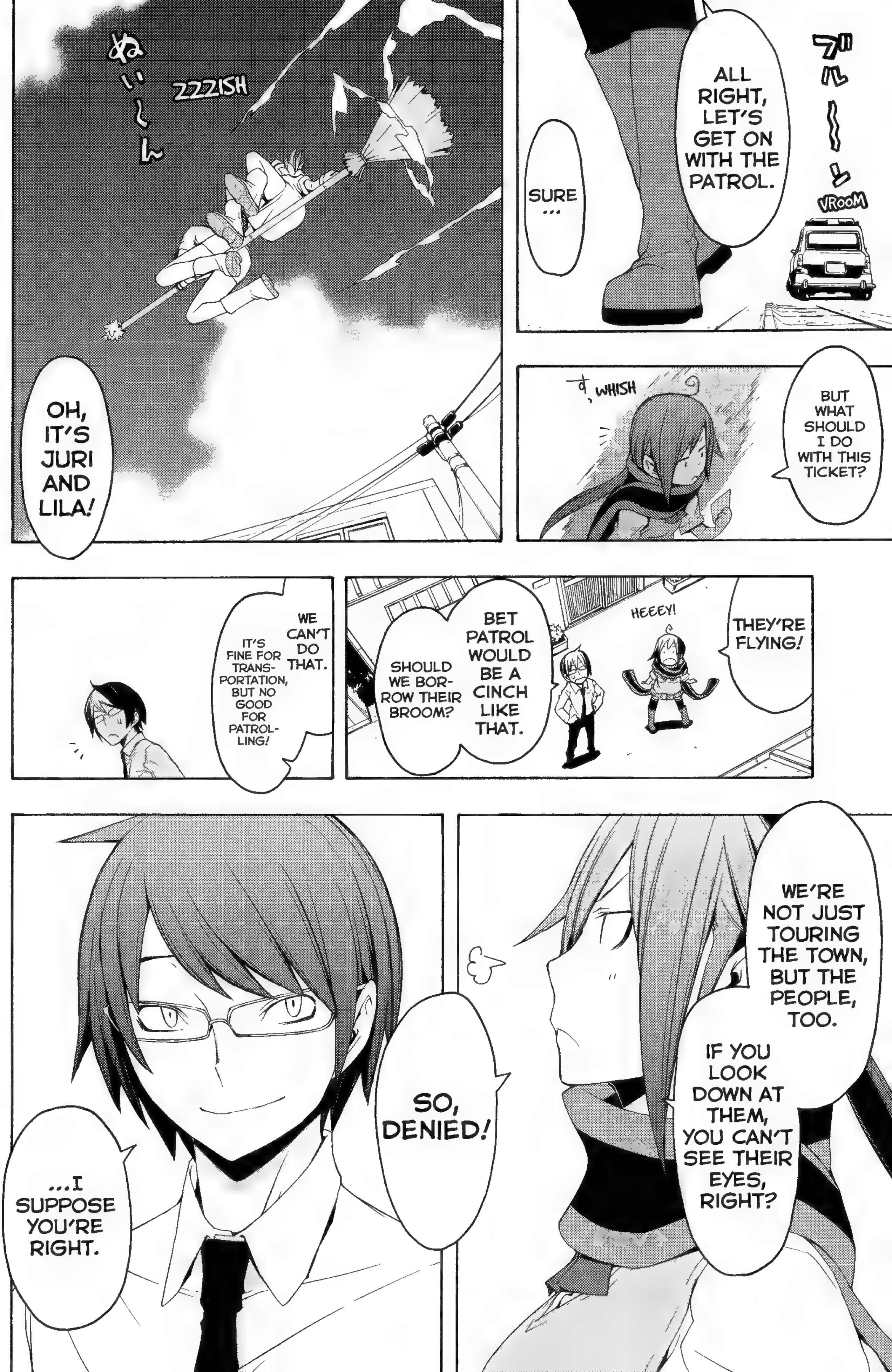

I HEAR YOU.
cafe

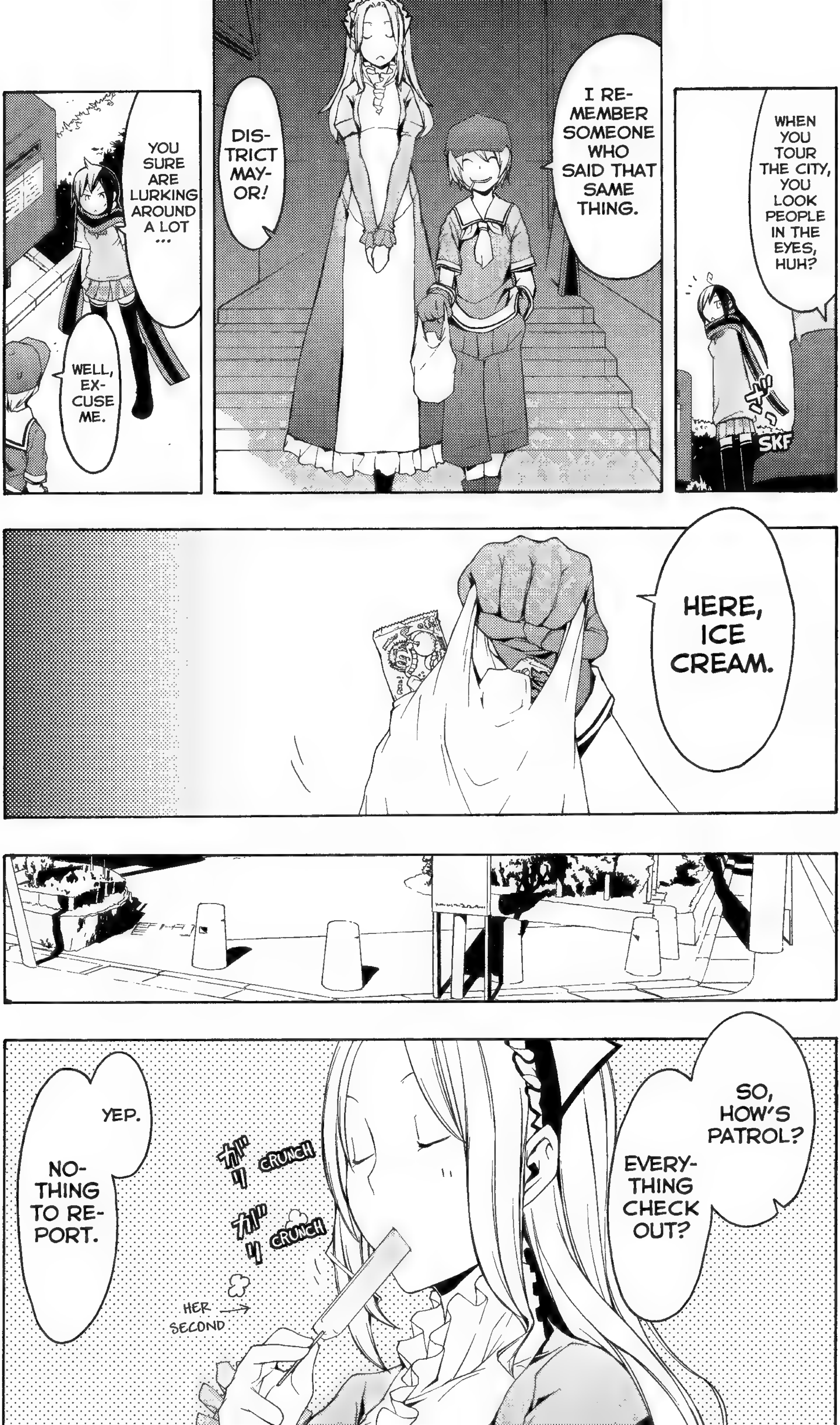
#55 SUMMER'S COMING (PART TWO)

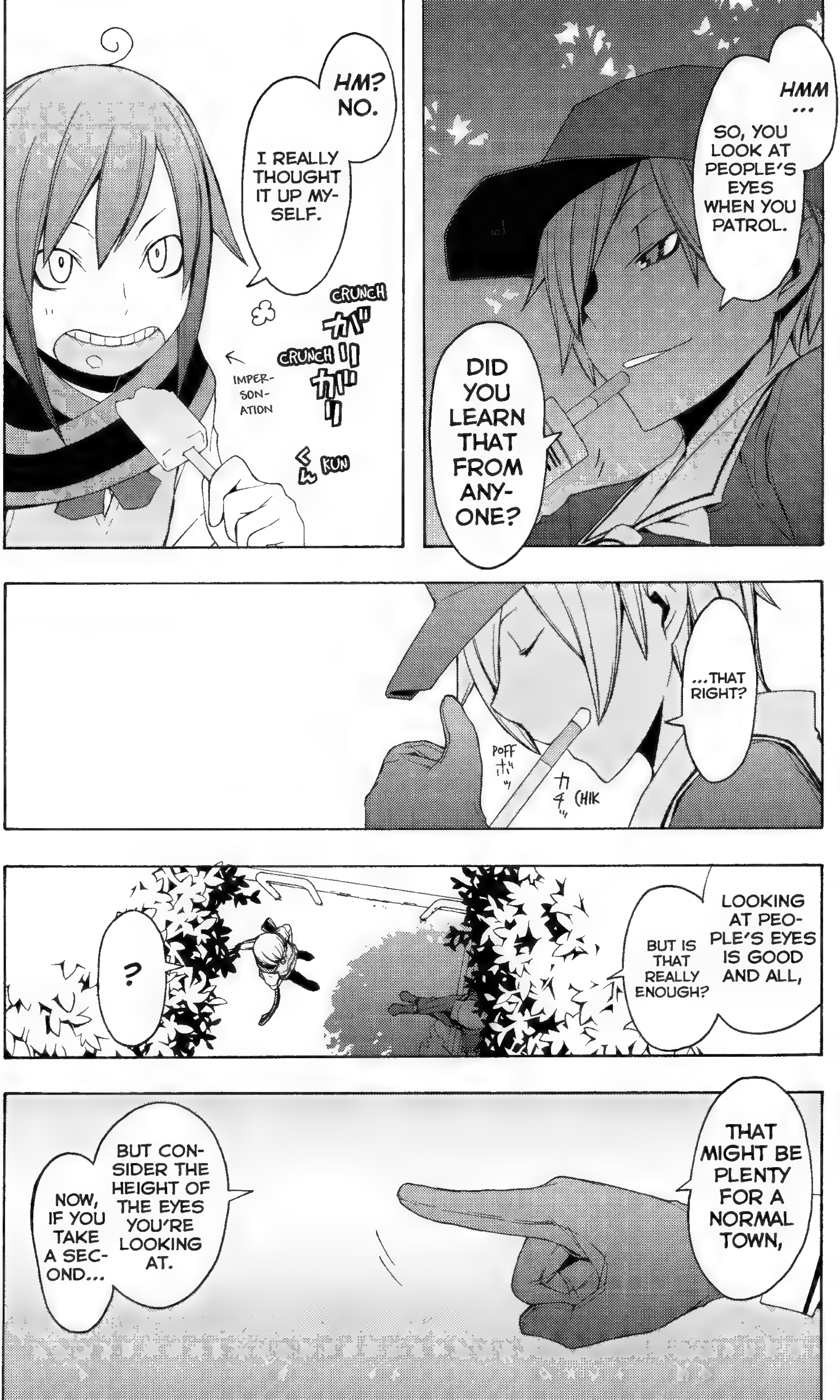

ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD BE DOODLING IN THE HIME MEMO?
ISN'T IT FOR JOTTING DOWN ISSUES AND NOTEWORTHY THINGS AROUND TOWN?
DON'T CALL IT DOODLING! AND JUST A LITTLE IS FINE...
I'VE BEEN WRITING LESS AND LESS IN THE HIME MEMO LATELY.
MAYBE I'VE LOST MY TOUCH COMPARED TO BEFORE.
?
...
BEEP BEEEEP
プップー
THAT'S ...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MA'AM?
NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR THAT! UNLOCK THE DOOR, I'M HOPPING OUT!
ガチャ CLACK
ガチャ CLACK
3 18-41
GASP! I SPY A PLIGHT! LET'S GO, SUKE-SAN!
たたっ TAP TAP
WHO'S SUKE-SAN?

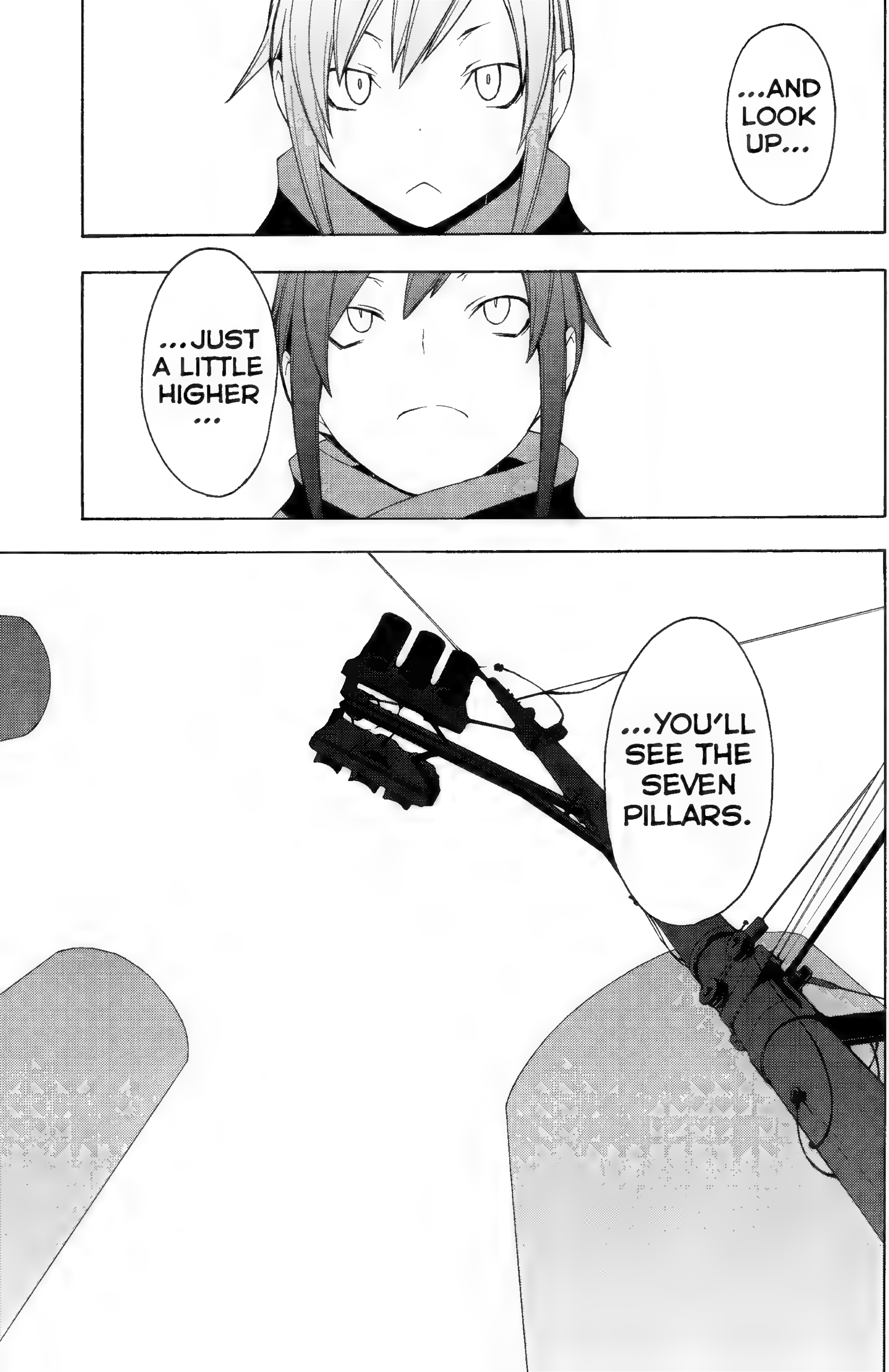

THERE WE GO.
がちょん
SHOOP
GOOD THING THE WHEEL WASN'T BROKEN.
TAKE CARE, MA'AM!
THANK YOU, DEAR.
THIS MIGHT BE SOMETHING WORTH LOOKING AT.
こんこん
TNK TNK
I'LL JUST JOT THIS DOWN.
LET'S ADD IT TO THE AGENDA, KYOSUKE.
HIME MEMO!
HELLO.
THANKS FOR THE HARD WORK, SHIDOU-SAN.
MY PLEASURE.
WE'RE GOING SWIMMING AT THE PARK! DO YOU GUYS WANNA COME?
OOH, GOOD IDEA.
MMM... BUT WE STILL HAVE TO PATROL, SO I'LL PASS.
YOU CAN SWIM, MISS?
I NEVER WOULD HAVE GUESSED.
HOW RUDE! I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I'M KNOWN AS THE MERMAID OF SAKURASHIN!
YOU HAVE SOME NERVE SAYING THAT IN FRONT OF AN ACTUAL MERMAID...

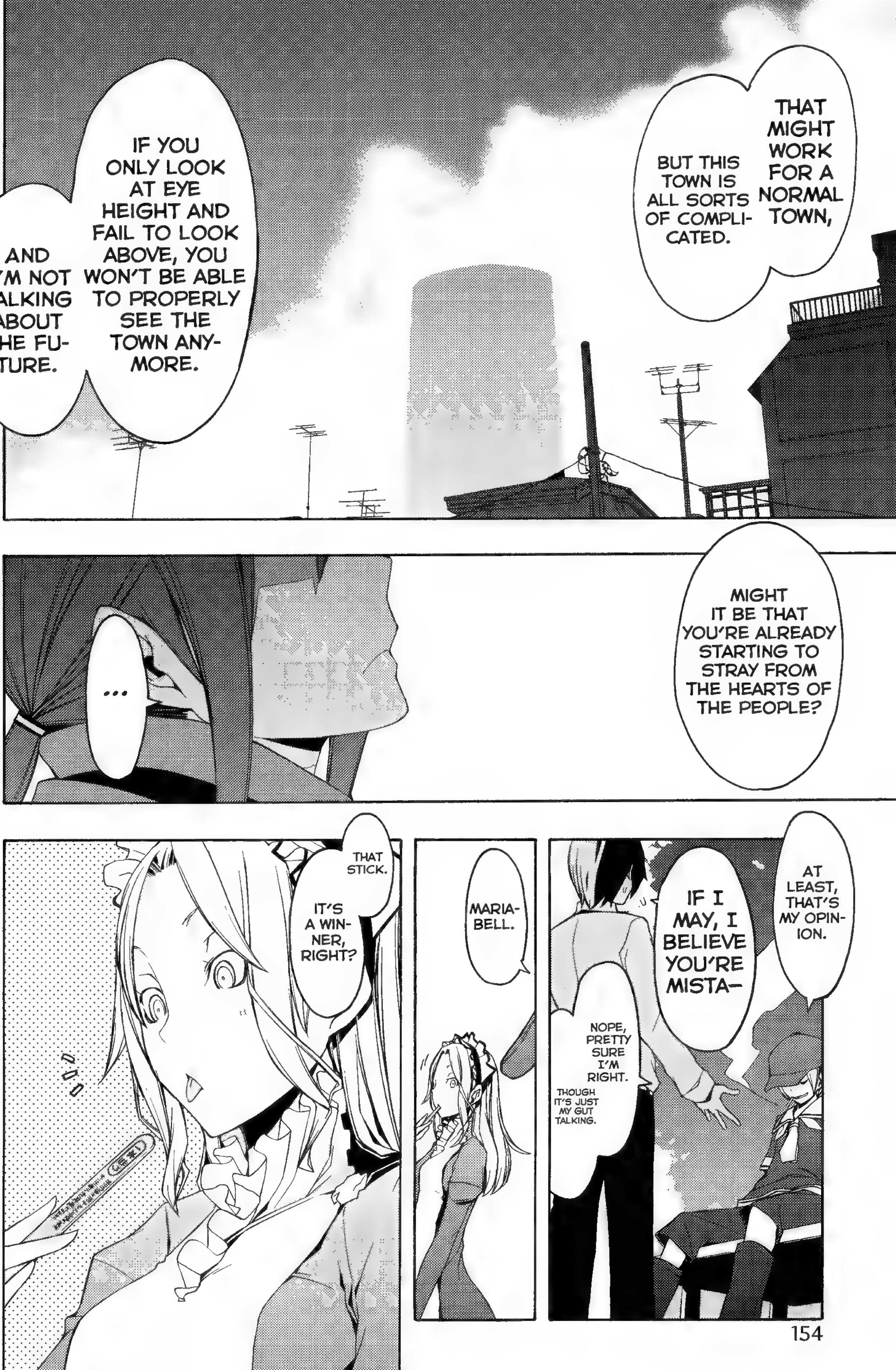

I SEE, SO THAT'S YOUR MAIN JOB...
DON'T CALL IT A JOB!
ガラガラ
RATTLE RATTLE
OH, HELLO AGAIN, MA'AM.
I TOTALLY FORGOT.
HERE YOU ARE.
TAKE THIS.
SAKURASHIN SHOPPING DISTRICT
LOTTERY FESTIVAL
A TICKET?
OH, IT'S FOR A LOTTERY.
FOUR TICKETS FOR ONE CHANCE...
GRAND PRIZE
A ONE-NIGHT TWO-DAY TRIP TO HAKONE
1ST PRIZE
A 37-INCH PLASMA TV
GIFT CERTIFICATE WORTH
MP3 PLAYER
4TH PRIZE
SHOPPING DISTRICT GIFT CERTIFICATE WORTH 1,000 YEN*
IT ENDS TODAY, BUT I HAD THIS TICKET LEFT OVER.
PLEASE TAKE IT AS MY THANKS.
WE CAN'T ACCEPT THA—
THANKS A LOT, MA'AM!
I'LL BE SURE TO SHARE THE WEALTH IF I STRIKE IT BIG!
TAKE CARE NOW!
ARE YOU SURE IT WAS OKAY TO TAKE THAT?
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S ACTUALLY MONEY. BESIDES, IT WOULD BE RUDE TO TURN DOWN HER GOODWILL.
IT FELT TO ME MORE LIKE SHE WAS GIVING IT TO HER GRANDDAUGHTER RATHER THAN THE MAYOR.
I SAY KEEP IT.
SEE?! SHIDOU GETS IT!
I SEE...

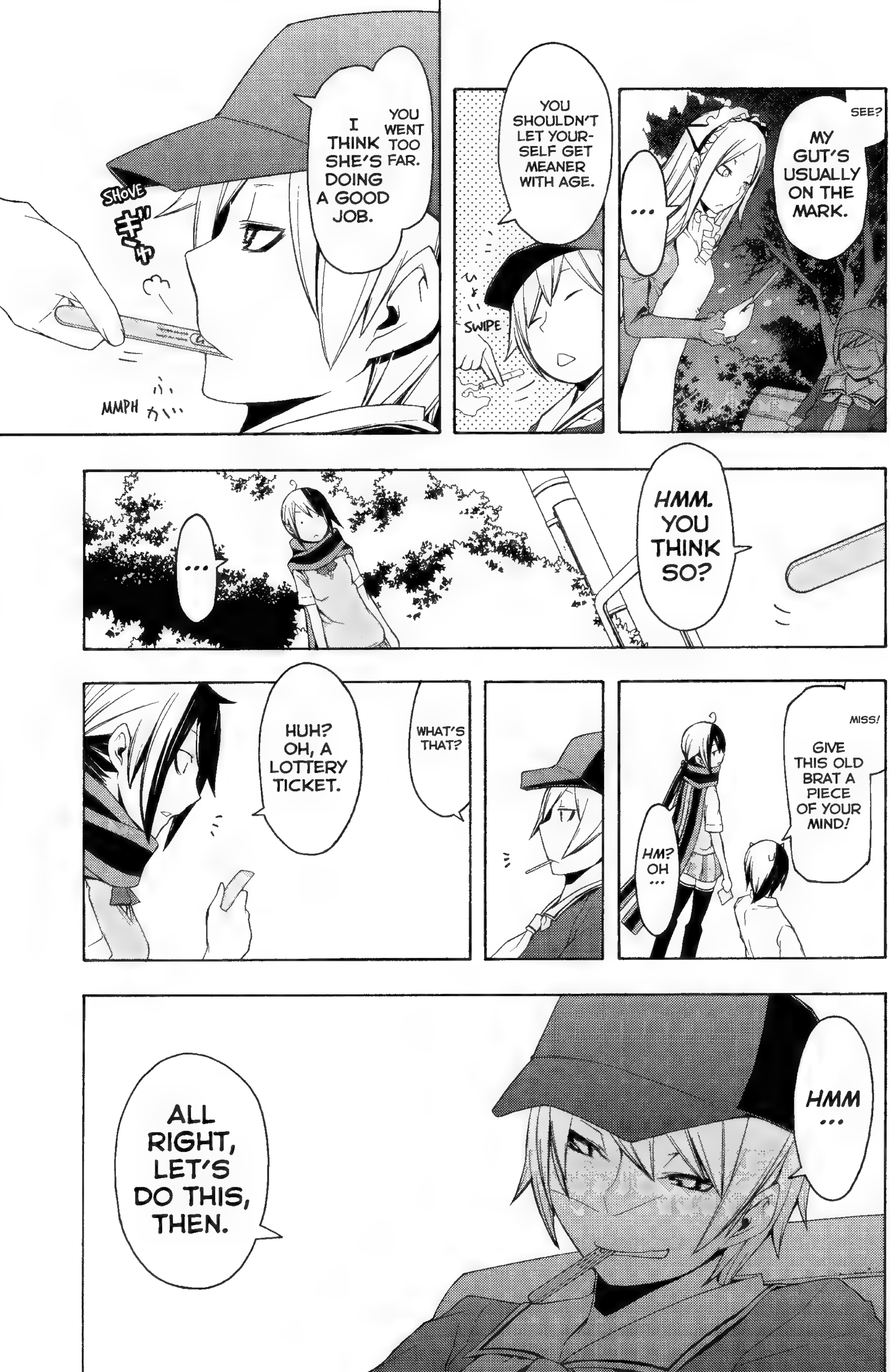

ブル〜ン
VROOM
ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET ON WITH THE PATROL.
SURE...
す, WHISH
BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH THIS TICKET?
ぬい〜ん
ZZZISH
OH, IT'S JURI AND LILA!
THEY'RE FLYING!
HEEEY!
BET PATROL WOULD BE A CINCH LIKE THAT.
SHOULD WE BORROW THEIR BROOM?
WE CAN'T DO THAT.
IT'S FINE FOR TRANSPORTATION, BUT NO GOOD FOR PATROLLING!
WE'RE NOT JUST TOURING THE TOWN, BUT THE PEOPLE, TOO.
IF YOU LOOK DOWN AT THEM, YOU CAN'T SEE THEIR EYES, RIGHT?
SO, DENIED!
...I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT.

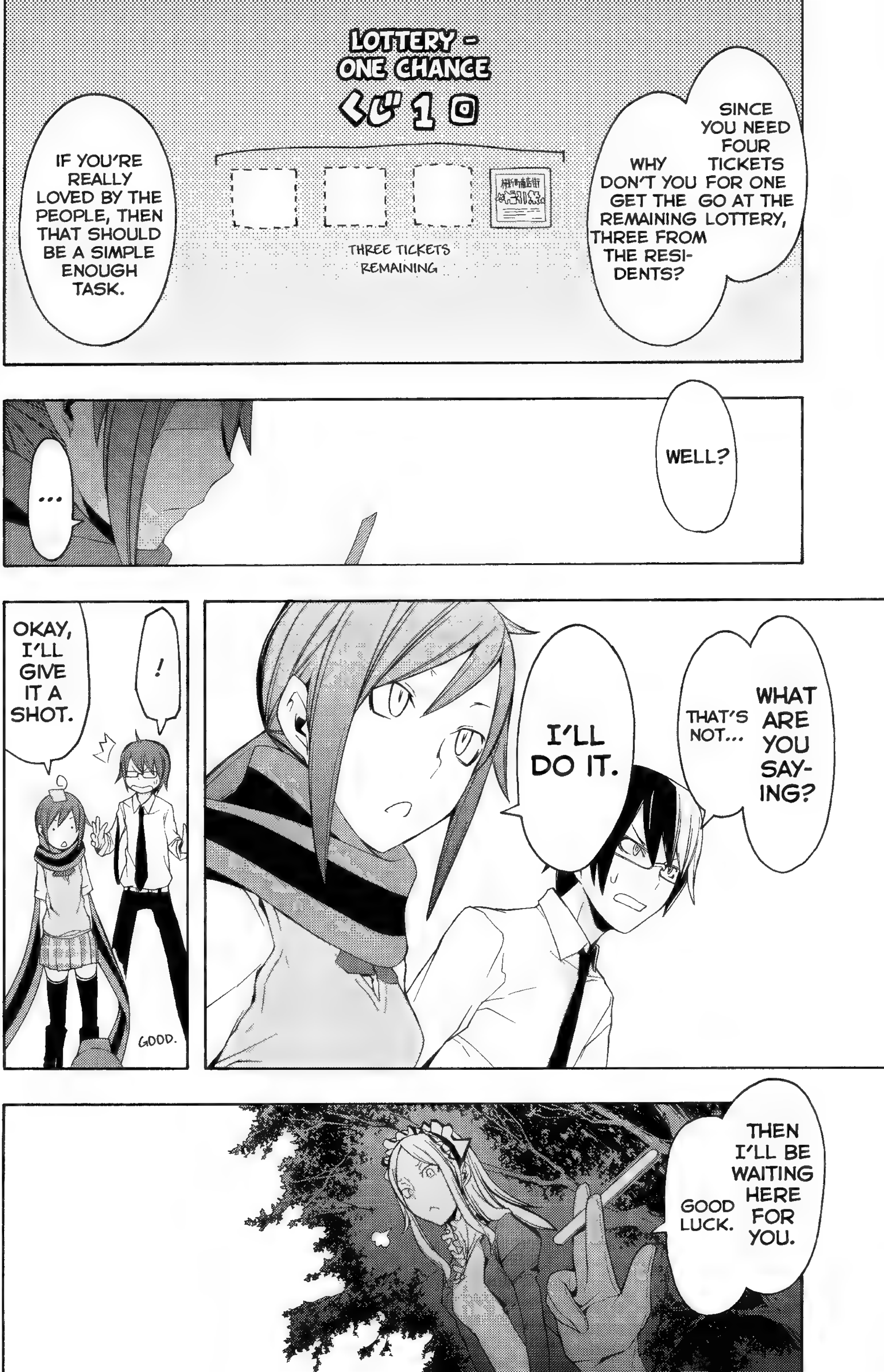

WHEN YOU TOUR THE CITY, YOU LOOK PEOPLE IN THE EYES, HUH?
ズッ
SKF
I REMEMBER SOMEONE WHO SAID THAT SAME THING.
DISTRICT MAYOR!
YOU SURE ARE LURKING AROUND A LOT...
WELL, EXCUSE ME.
HERE, ICE CREAM.
SO, HOW'S PATROL? EVERYTHING CHECK OUT?
YEP.
NOTHING TO REPORT.
カリ
CRUNCH
カリ
CRUNCH
HER SECOND

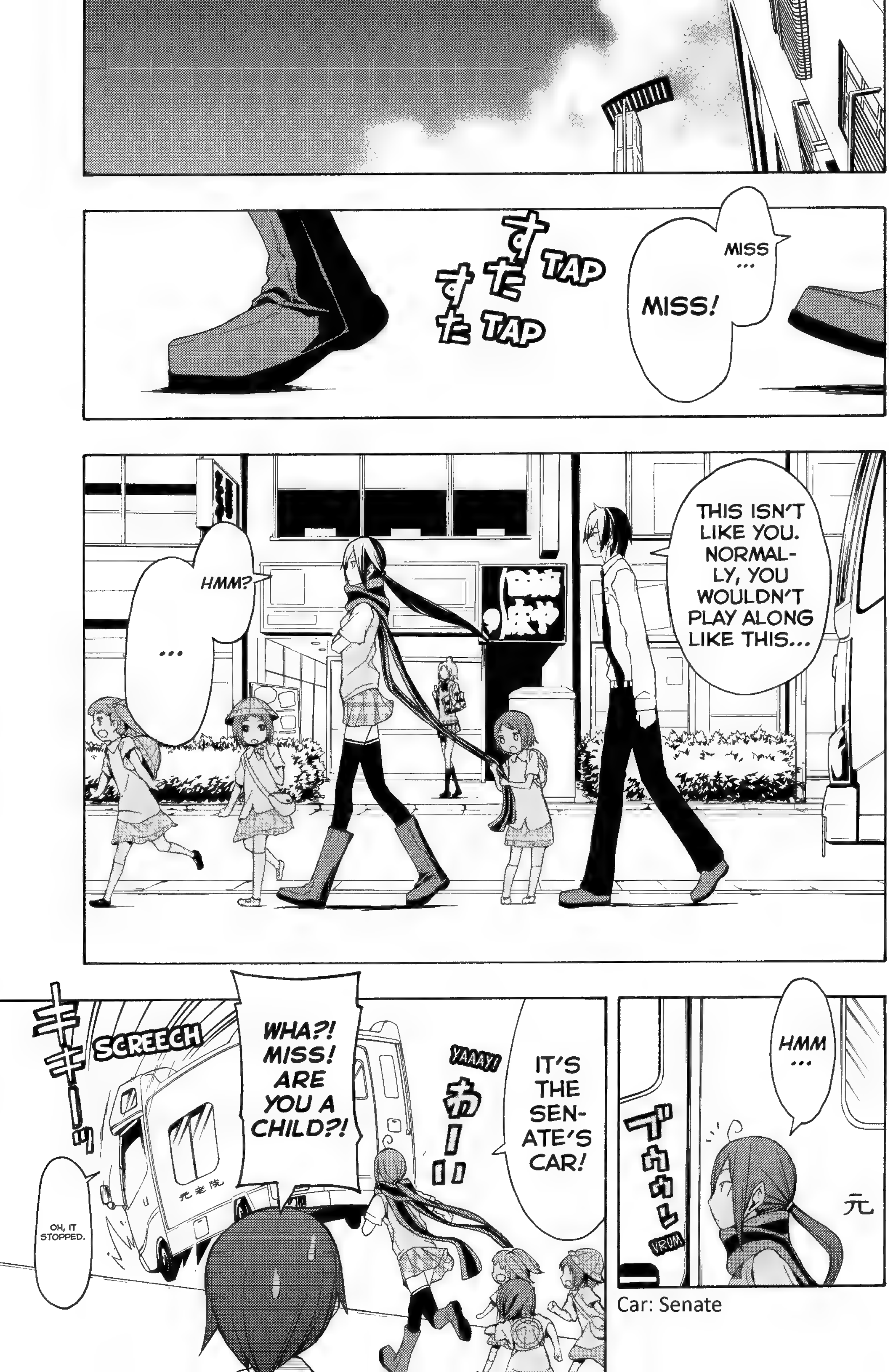

HMM...
SO, YOU LOOK AT PEOPLE'S EYES WHEN YOU PATROL.
DID YOU LEARN THAT FROM ANYONE?
HM? NO.
I REALLY THOUGHT IT UP MYSELF.
ガリ CRUNCH
ガリ CRUNCH
IMPERSONATION
くん KUN
...THAT RIGHT?
ポッ POFF
カチッ CHIK
LOOKING AT PEOPLE'S EYES IS GOOD AND ALL,
BUT IS THAT REALLY ENOUGH?
?
THAT MIGHT BE PLENTY FOR A NORMAL TOWN,
BUT CONSIDER THE HEIGHT OF THE EYES YOU'RE LOOKING AT.
NOW, IF YOU TAKE A SECOND...


...AND LOOK UP...
...JUST A LITTLE HIGHER...
...YOU'LL SEE THE SEVEN PILLARS.

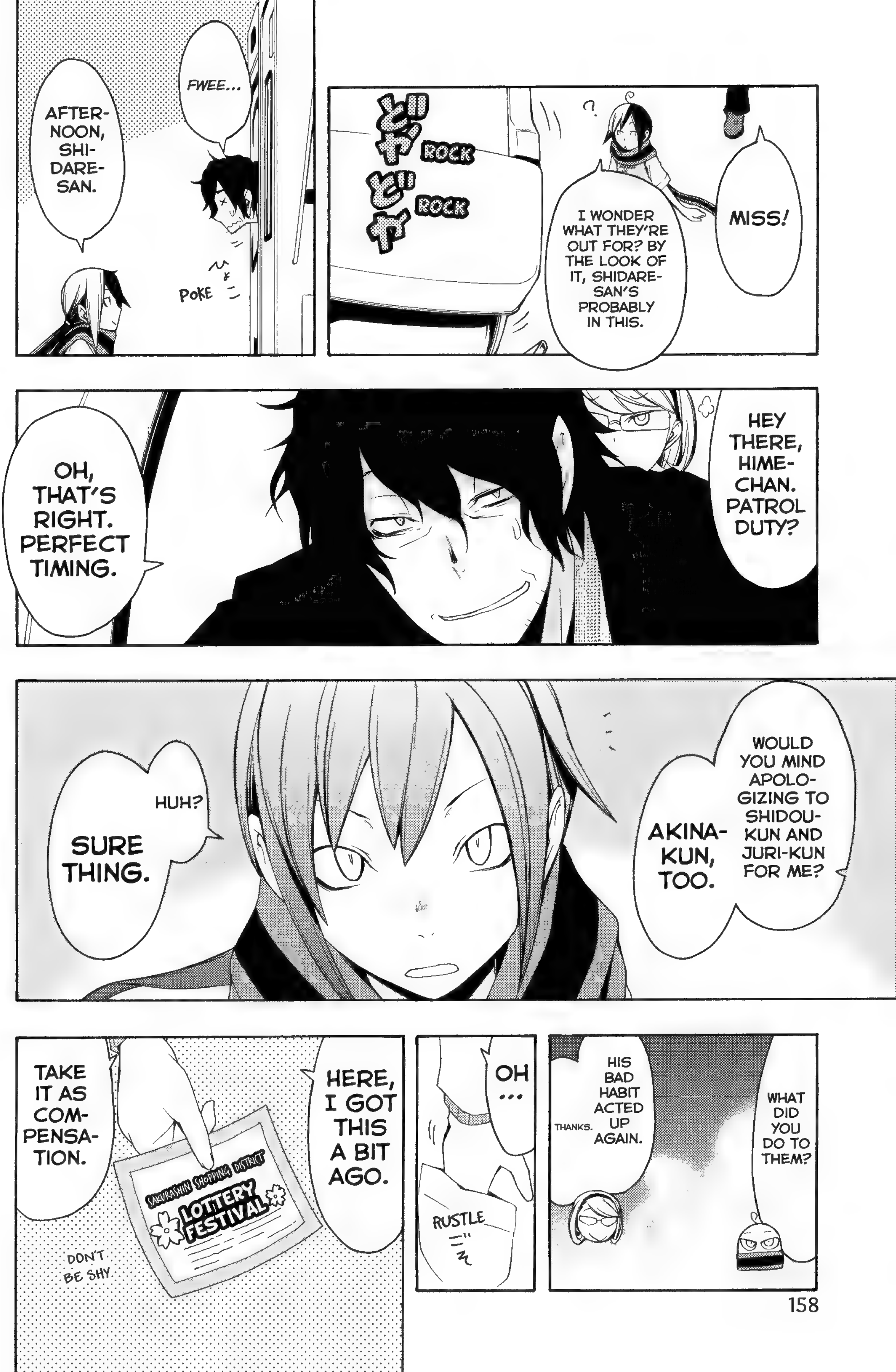

THAT MIGHT WORK FOR A NORMAL TOWN,
BUT THIS TOWN IS ALL SORTS OF COMPLICATED.
IF YOU ONLY LOOK AT EYE HEIGHT AND FAIL TO LOOK ABOVE, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PROPERLY SEE THE TOWN ANYMORE.
AND I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE FUTURE.
MIGHT IT BE THAT YOU'RE ALREADY STARTING TO STRAY FROM THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE?
...
AT LEAST, THAT'S MY OPINION.
IF I MAY, I BELIEVE YOU'RE MISTA—
NOPE, PRETTY SURE I'M RIGHT.
THOUGH IT'S JUST MY GUT TALKING.
MARIA-BELL.
THAT STICK.
IT'S A WINNER, RIGHT?

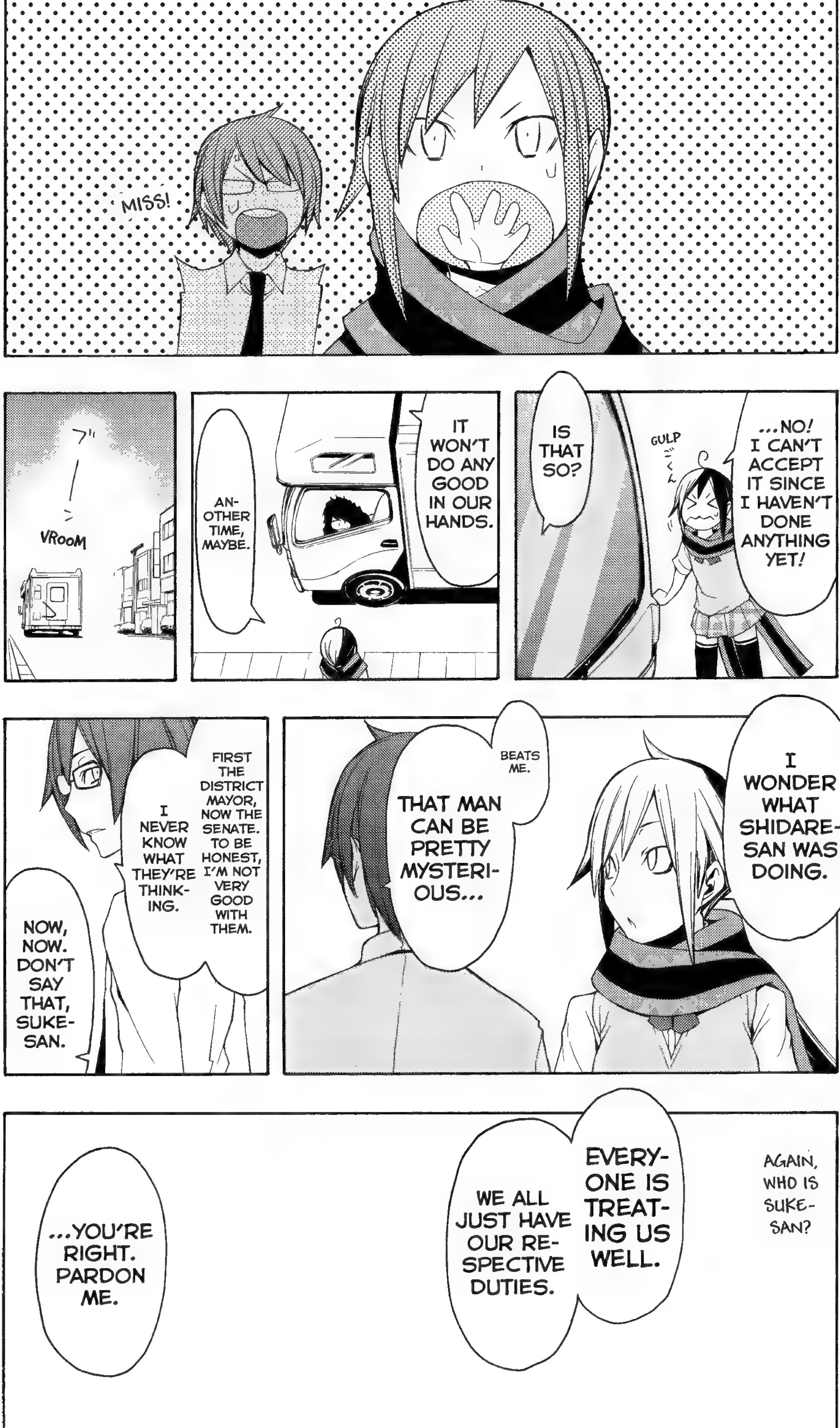

SEE?
MY GUT'S USUALLY ON THE MARK.
...
YOU SHOULDN'T LET YOURSELF GET MEANER WITH AGE.
ひょい
SWIPE
YOU WENT TOO FAR.
I THINK SHE'S DOING A GOOD JOB.
SHOVE
ギュ
ふが
MMPH
HMM. YOU THINK SO?
...
MISS!
GIVE THIS OLD BRAT A PIECE OF YOUR MIND!
HM? OH ...
WHAT'S THAT?
HUH? OH, A LOTTERY TICKET.
HMM ...
ALL RIGHT, LET'S DO THIS, THEN.

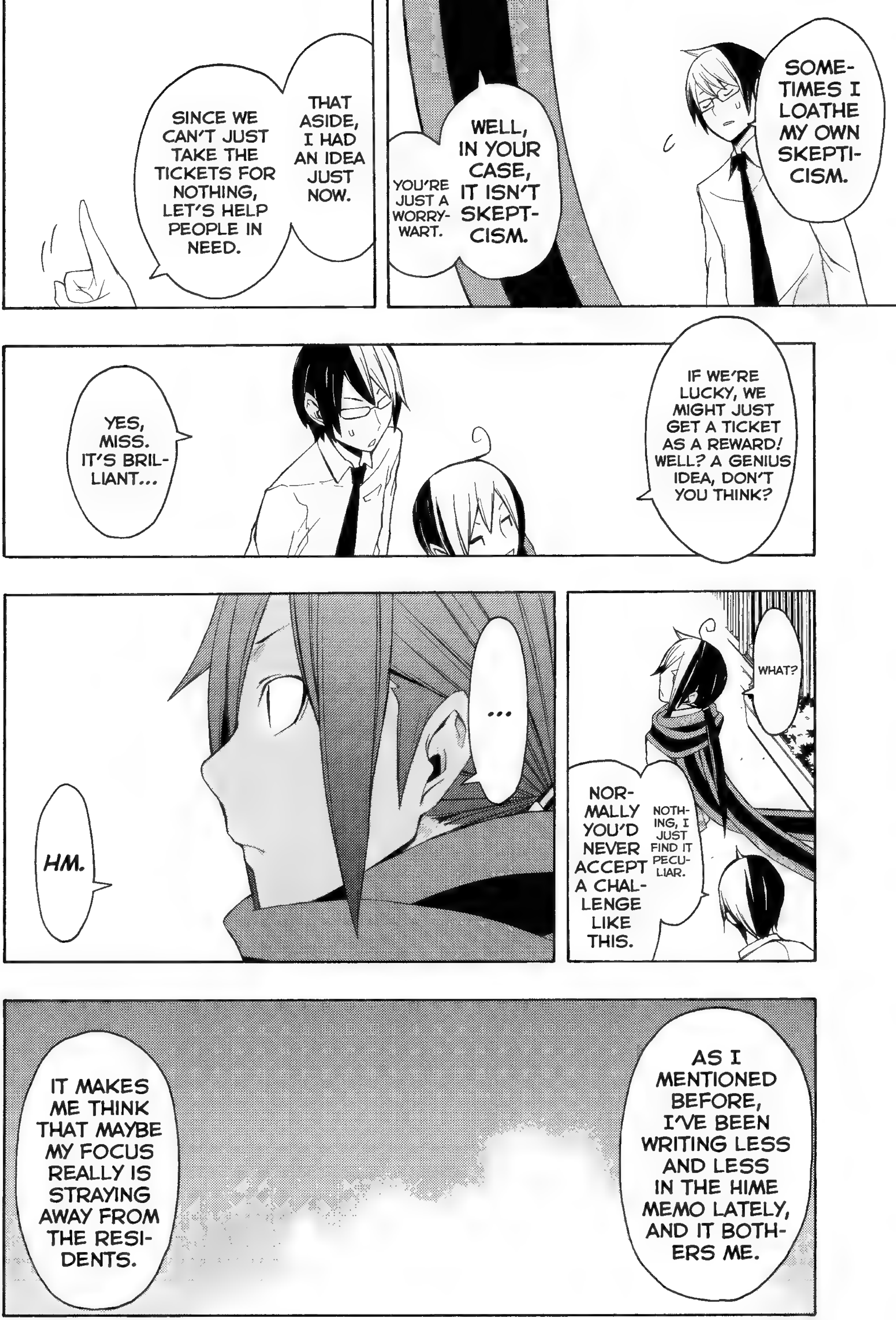

SINCE YOU NEED FOUR TICKETS FOR ONE GO AT THE LOTTERY,
WHY DON'T YOU GET THE REMAINING THREE FROM THE RESIDENTS?
LOTTERY - ONE CHANCE
くじ1回
THREE TICKETS REMAINING
IF YOU'RE REALLY LOVED BY THE PEOPLE, THEN THAT SHOULD BE A SIMPLE ENOUGH TASK.
WELL?
...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
THAT'S NOT...
I'LL DO IT.
!
OKAY, I'LL GIVE IT A SHOT.
GOOD.
THEN I'LL BE WAITING HERE FOR YOU.
GOOD LUCK.

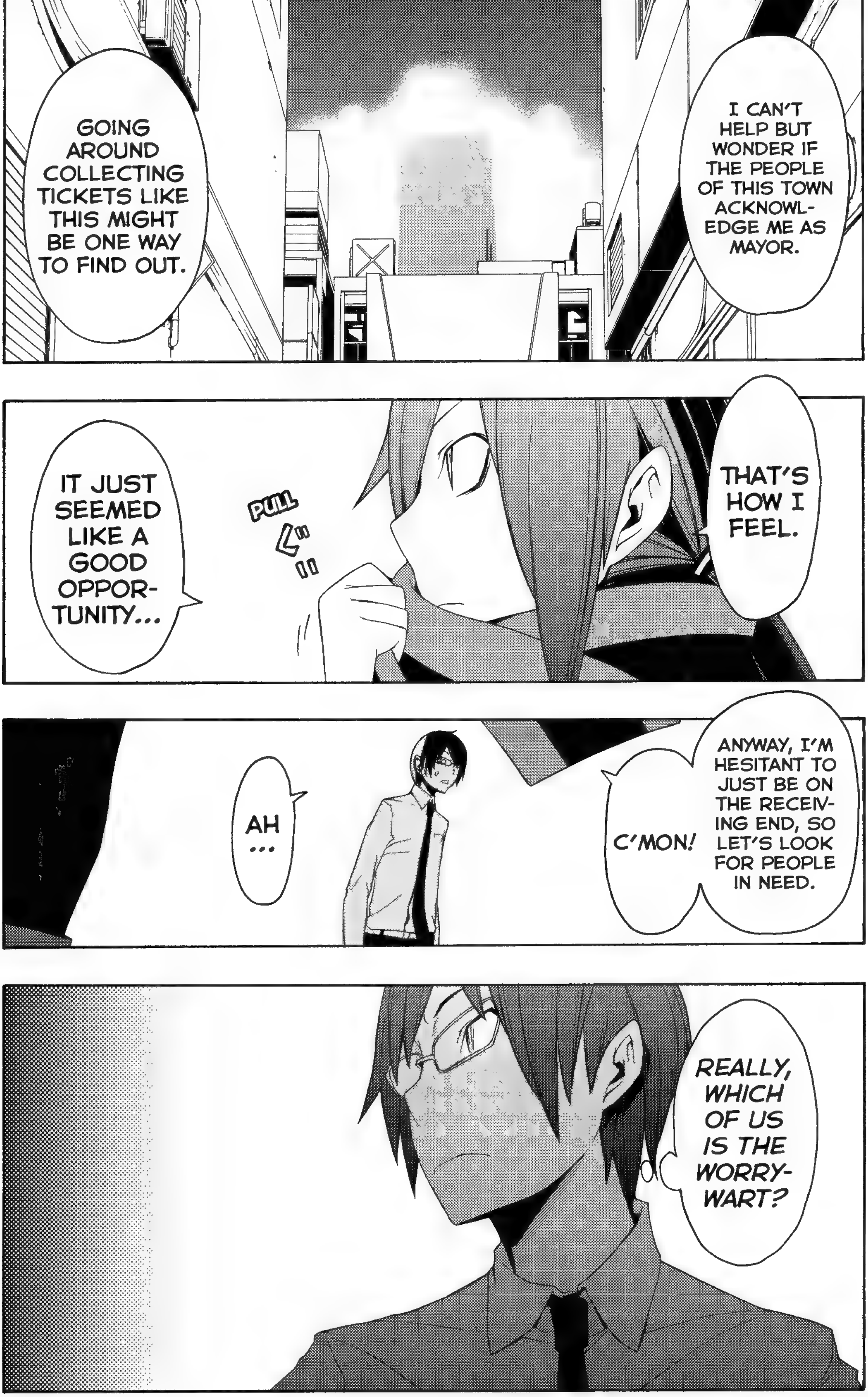

MISS...
MISS!
すたすた
TAP
TAP
THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU. NORMALLY, YOU WOULDN'T PLAY ALONG LIKE THIS...
HMM?
...
HMM...
ブゥゥ
VRUM
元
IT'S THE SENATE'S CAR!
あー!!
YAAAY!
WHA?! MISS! ARE YOU A CHILD?!
キキーッ
SCREECH
OH, IT STOPPED.
元老院

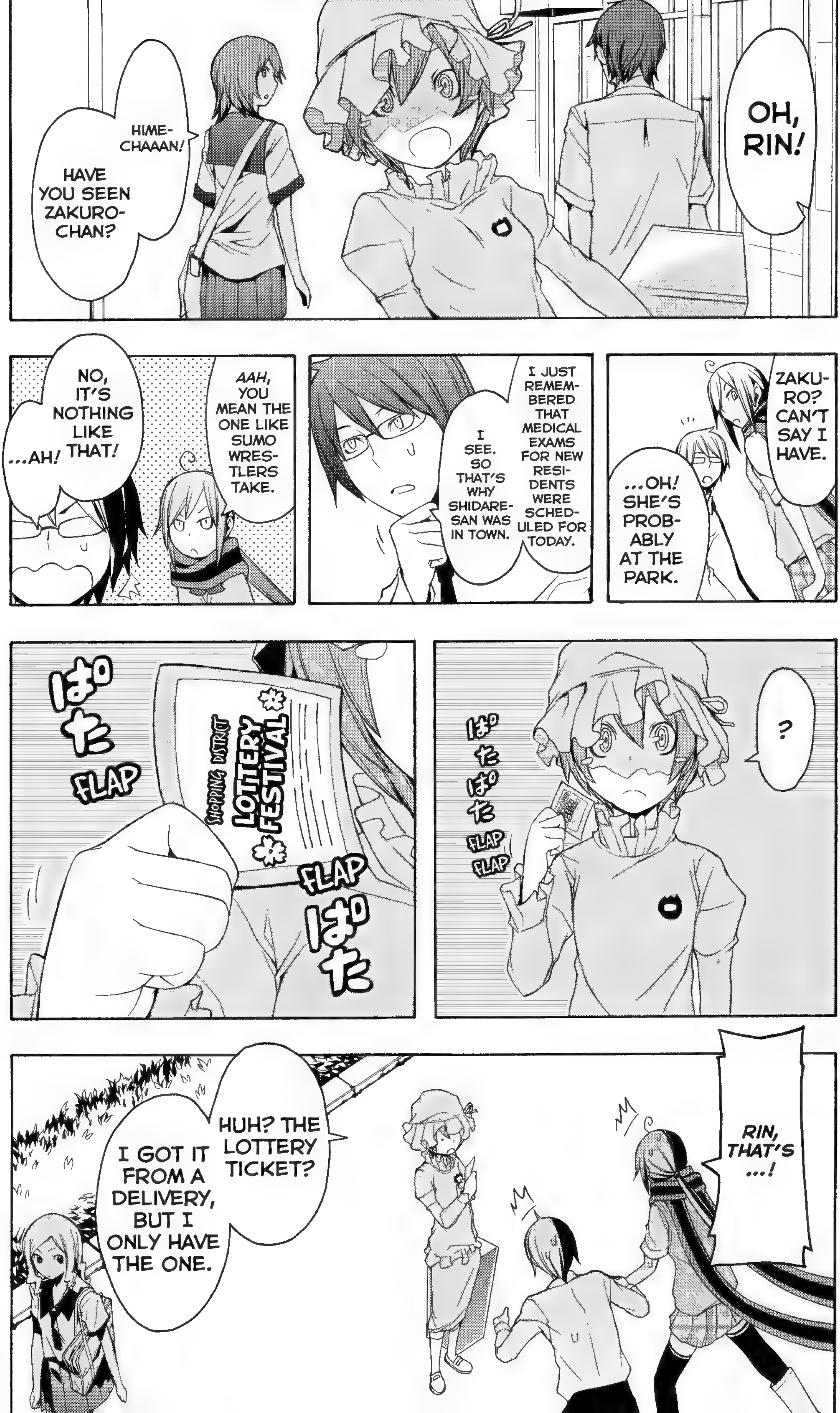
Car: Senate

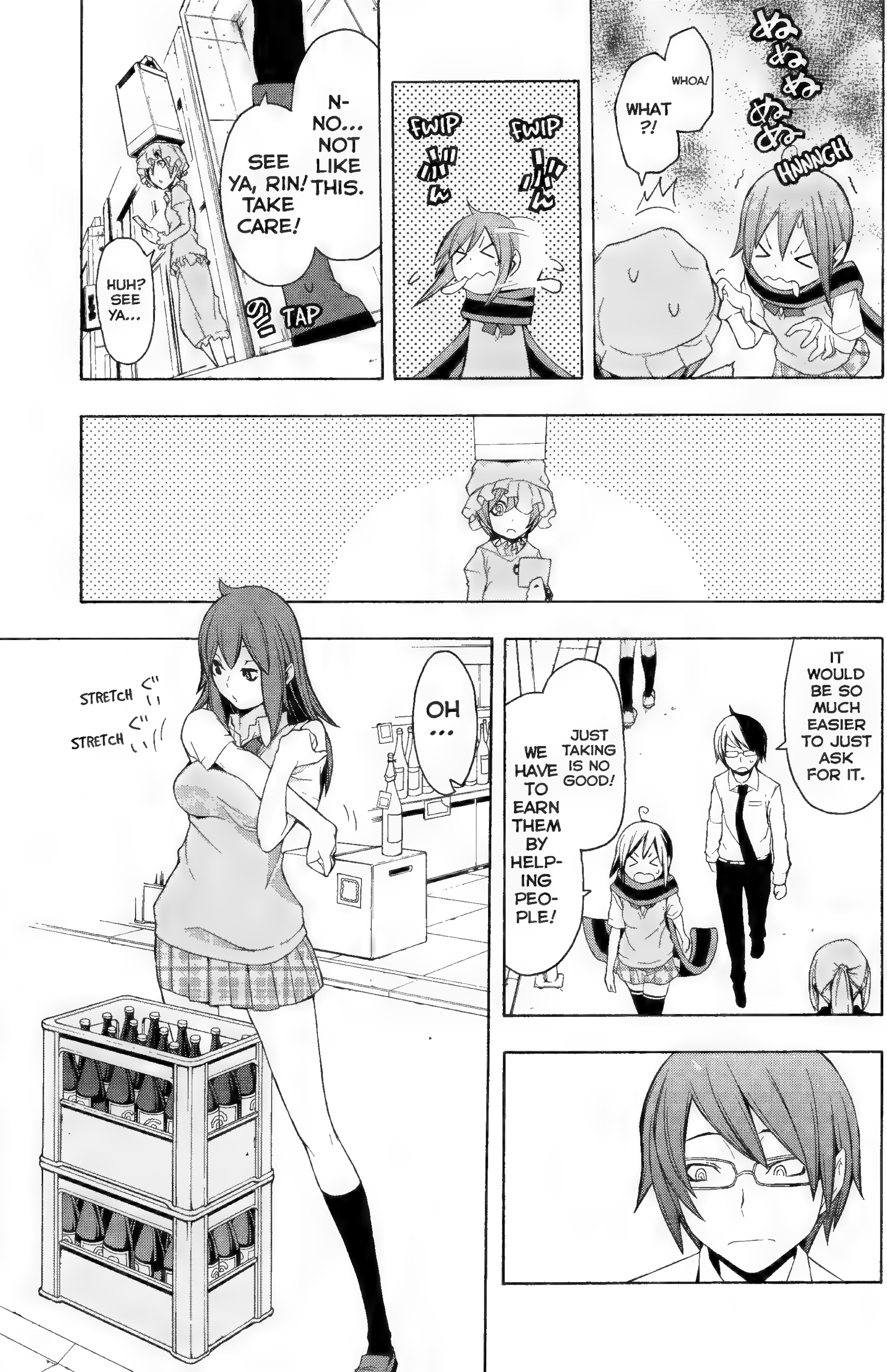

MISS!
I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE OUT FOR? BY THE LOOK OF IT, SHIDARE-SAN'S PROBABLY IN THIS.
どやどや ROCK ROCK
FWEE...
AFTERNOON, SHIDARE-SAN.
POKE
HEY THERE, HIME-CHAN. PATROL DUTY?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. PERFECT TIMING.
WOULD YOU MIND APOLOGIZING TO SHIDOU-KUN AND JURI-KUN FOR ME?
AKINA-KUN, TOO.
HUH?
SURE THING.
WHAT DID YOU DO TO THEM?
HIS BAD HABIT ACTED UP AGAIN.
THANKS.
OH...
RUSTLE
HERE, I GOT THIS A BIT AGO.
TAKE IT AS COMPENSATION.
SAKURASHIN SHOPPING DISTRICT
LOTTERY FESTIVAL
DON'T BE SHY.

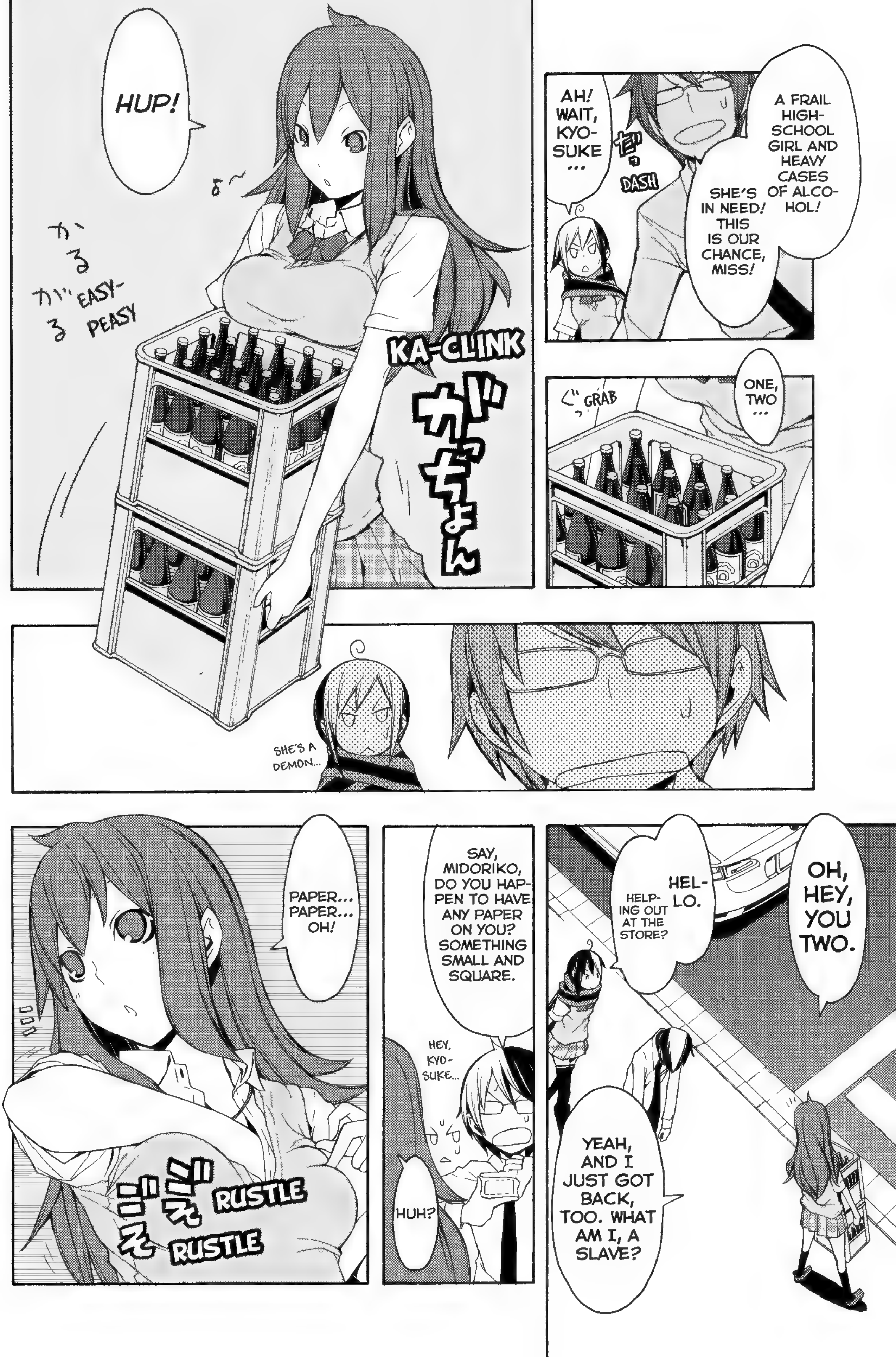

MISS!
...NO! I CAN'T ACCEPT IT SINCE I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING YET!
GULP
ごくん
IS THAT SO?
IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD IN OUR HANDS.
ANOTHER TIME, MAYBE.
ブーン
VROOM
I WONDER WHAT SHIDARE-SAN WAS DOING.
BEATS ME.
THAT MAN CAN BE PRETTY MYSTERIOUS...
FIRST THE DISTRICT MAYOR, NOW THE SENATE. TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT VERY GOOD WITH THEM.
I NEVER KNOW WHAT THEY'RE THINKING.
NOW, NOW. DON'T SAY THAT, SUKE-SAN.
AGAIN, WHO IS SUKE-SAN?
EVERYONE IS TREATING US WELL.
WE ALL JUST HAVE OUR RESPECTIVE DUTIES.
...YOU'RE RIGHT. PARDON ME.

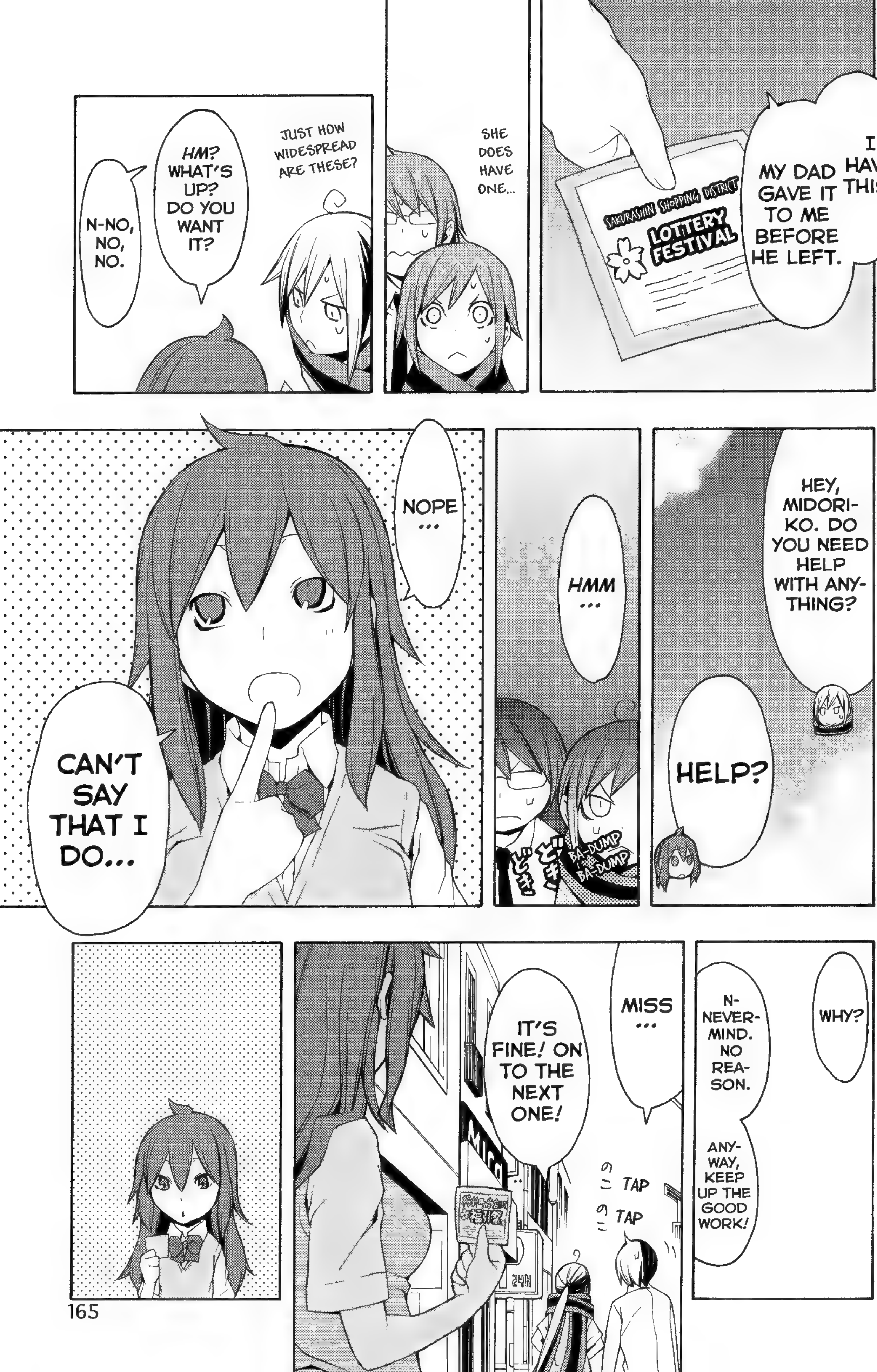

SOMETIMES I LOATHE MY OWN SKEPTICISM.
WELL, IN YOUR CASE, IT ISN'T SKEPTCISM.
YOU'RE JUST A WORRYWART.
THAT ASIDE, I HAD AN IDEA JUST NOW.
SINCE WE CAN'T JUST TAKE THE TICKETS FOR NOTHING, LET'S HELP PEOPLE IN NEED.
IF WE'RE LUCKY, WE MIGHT JUST GET A TICKET AS A REWARD! WELL? A GENIUS IDEA, DON'T YOU THINK?
YES, MISS. IT'S BRILLIANT...
WHAT?
NOTHING, I JUST FIND IT PECULIAR.
NORMALLY YOU'D NEVER ACCEPT A CHALLENGE LIKE THIS.
...
HM.
AS I MENTIONED BEFORE, I'VE BEEN WRITING LESS AND LESS IN THE HIME MEMO LATELY, AND IT BOTHERS ME.
IT MAKES ME THINK THAT MAYBE MY FOCUS REALLY IS STRAYING AWAY FROM THE RESIDENTS.

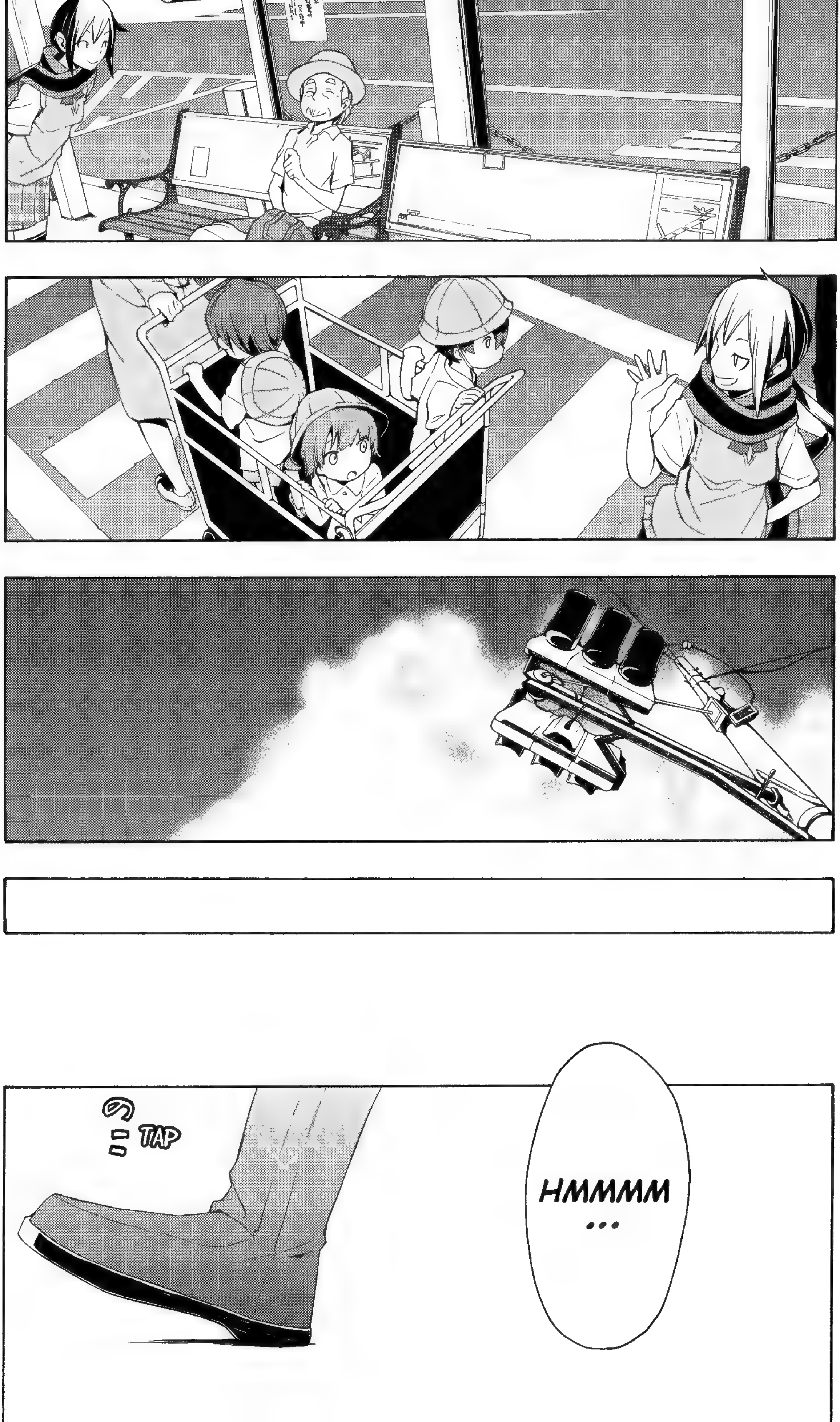

I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN ACKNOWLEDGE ME AS MAYOR.
GOING AROUND COLLECTING TICKETS LIKE THIS MIGHT BE ONE WAY TO FIND OUT.
THAT'S HOW I FEEL.
PULL
IT JUST SEEMED LIKE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY...
ANYWAY, I'M HESITANT TO JUST BE ON THE RECEIVING END, SO LET'S LOOK FOR PEOPLE IN NEED.
C'MON!
AH ...
REALLY, WHICH OF US IS THE WORRYWART?

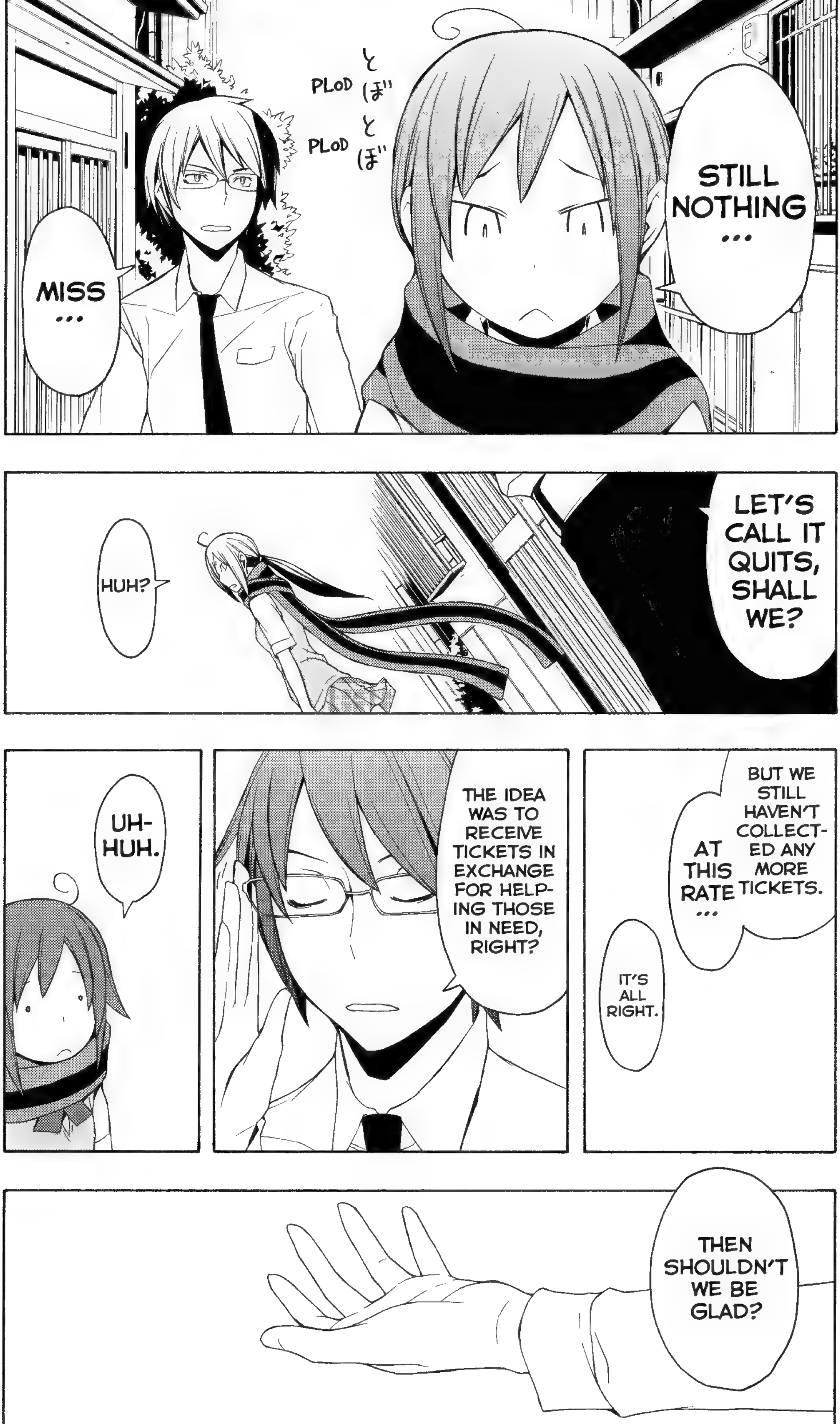

OH, RIN!
HIME-CHAAAN! HAVE YOU SEEN ZAKURO-CHAN?
ZAKURO? CAN'T SAY I HAVE.
...OH! SHE'S PROBABLY AT THE PARK.
I JUST REMEMBERED THAT MEDICAL EXAMS FOR NEW RESIDENTS WERE SCHEDULED FOR TODAY.
I SEE. SO THAT'S WHY SHIDARE-SAN WAS IN TOWN.
AAH, YOU MEAN THE ONE LIKE SUMO WRESTLERS TAKE.
NO, IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT! ...AH!
?
ぱたぱた FLAP FLAP
ぱた FLAP
SHOPPING DISTRICT LOTTERY FESTIVAL
FLAP ぱた
RIN, THAT'S ...!
HUH? THE LOTTERY TICKET?
I GOT IT FROM A DELIVERY, BUT I ONLY HAVE THE ONE.

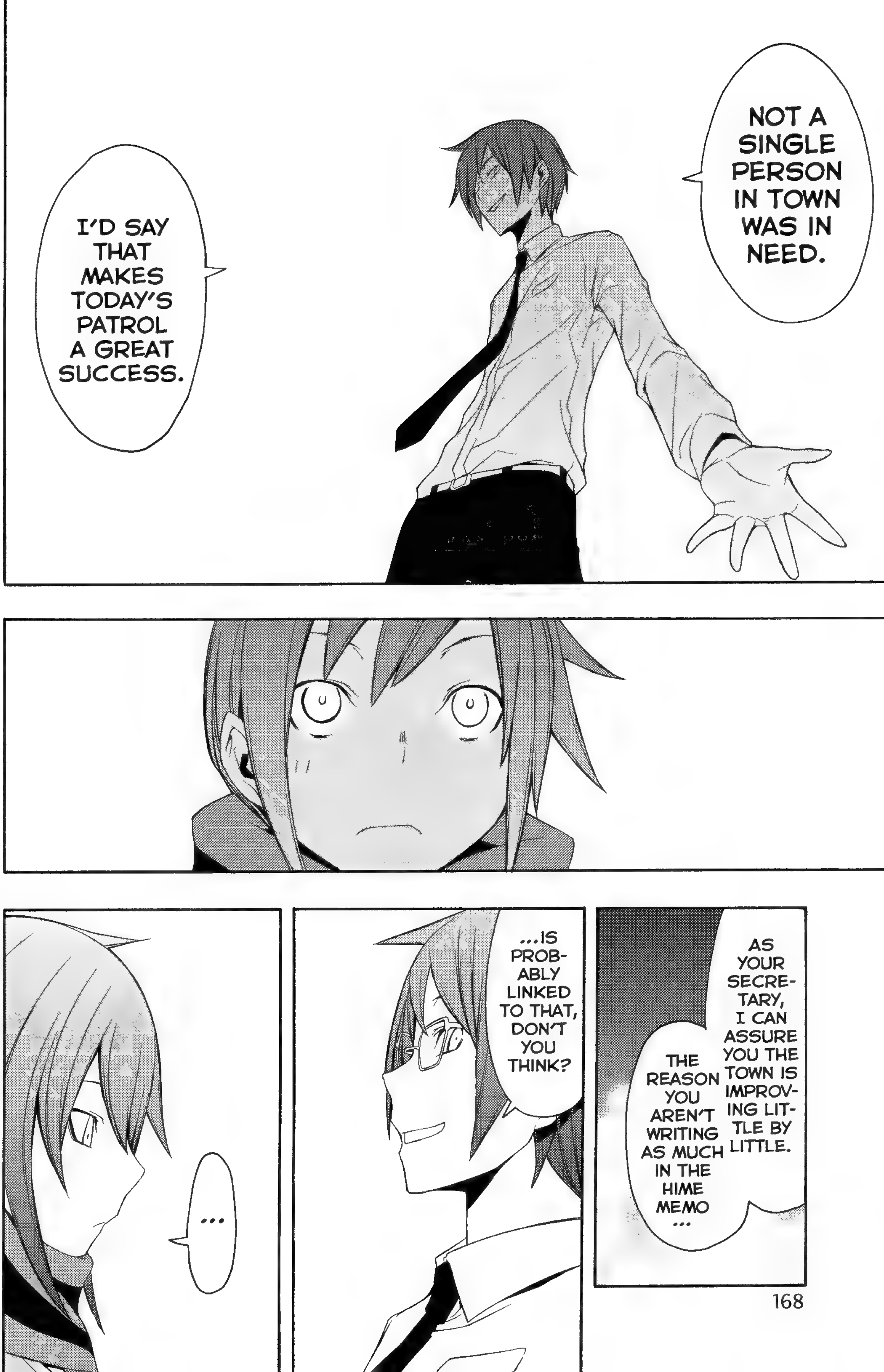

ぬぬぬぬぬぬ
HNNNGH
WHOA!
WHAT?!
FWIP ぶん
FWIP ぶん
N-NO... NOT LIKE THIS.
SEE YA, RIN! TAKE CARE!
HUH? SEE YA...
TAP すっ
IT WOULD BE SO MUCH EASIER TO JUST ASK FOR IT.
JUST TAKING IS NO GOOD!
WE HAVE TO EARN THEM BY HELPING PEOPLE!
OH...
STRETCH ぐい
STRETCH ぐい

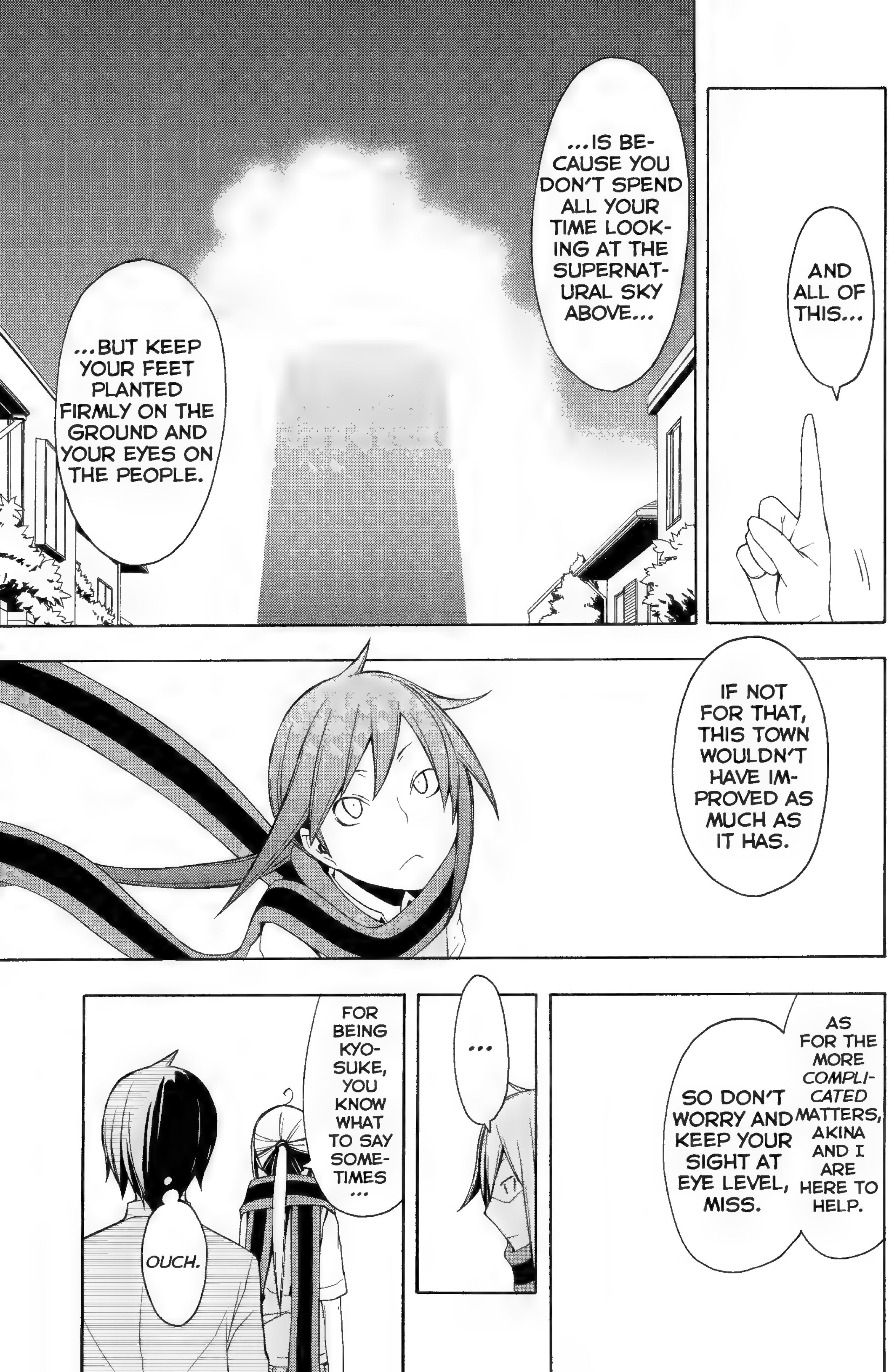

A FRAIL HIGH-SCHOOL GIRL AND HEAVY CASES OF ALCOHOL!
SHE'S IN NEED! THIS IS OUR CHANCE, MISS!
AH! WAIT, KYOSUKE...
だっ DASH
ONE, TWO...
ぐっ GRAB
HUP!
よ～
かるがる EASY-PEASY
がっちょん KA-CLINK
SHE'S A DEMON...
OH, HEY, YOU TWO.
HELLO.
HELPING OUT AT THE STORE?
YEAH, AND I JUST GOT BACK, TOO. WHAT AM I, A SLAVE?
SAY, MIDORIKO, DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE ANY PAPER ON YOU? SOMETHING SMALL AND SQUARE.
HEY, KYOSUKE...
HUH?
PAPER... PAPER... OH!
ごそごそ RUSTLE RUSTLE

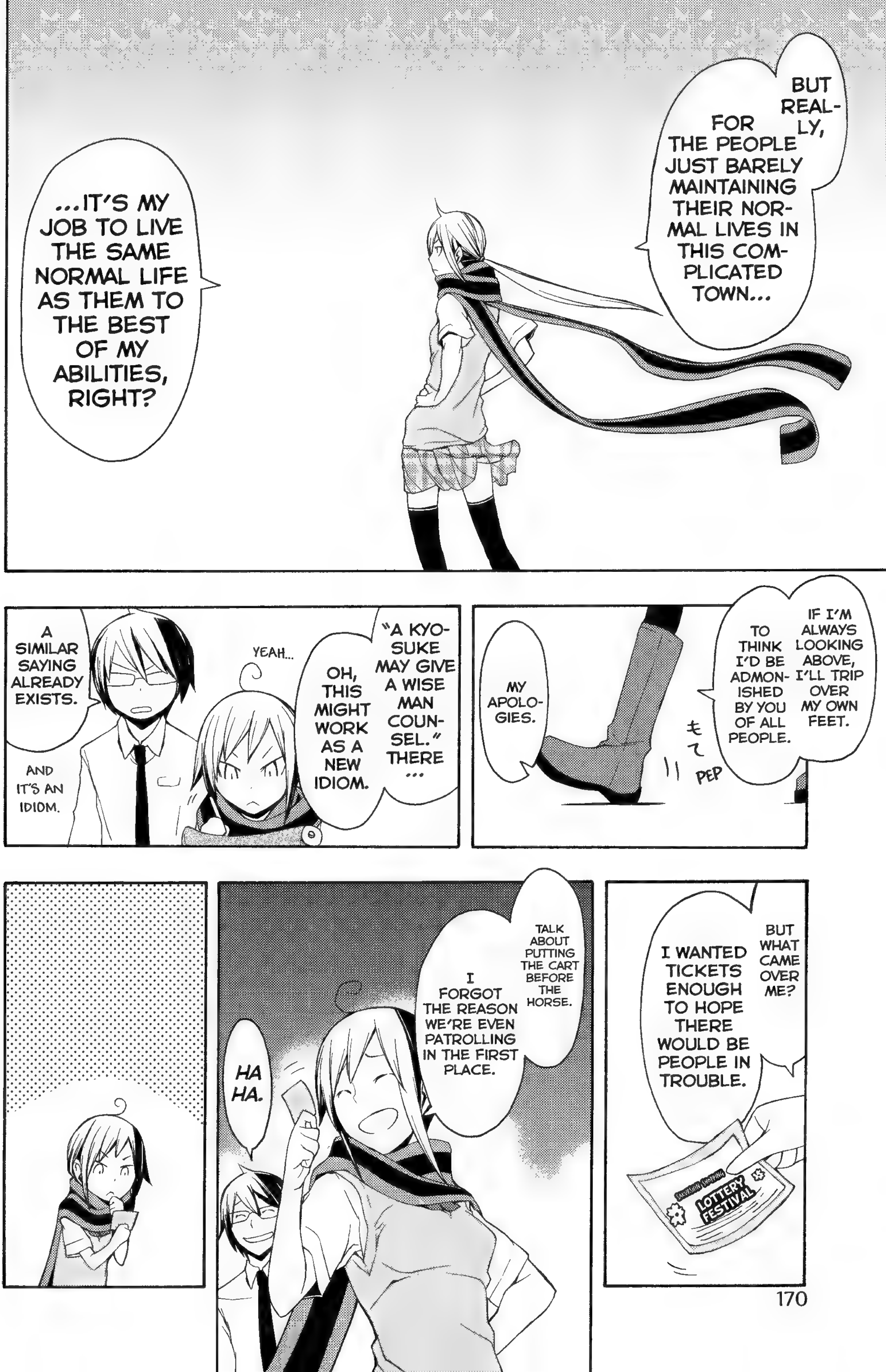

I HAVE THIS. MY DAD GAVE IT TO ME BEFORE HE LEFT.
SAKURASHIN SHOPPING DISTRICT
LOTTERY FESTIVAL
SHE DOES HAVE ONE...
JUST HOW WIDESPREAD ARE THESE?
HM? WHAT'S UP? DO YOU WANT IT?
N-NO, NO, NO.
HEY, MIDORIKO. DO YOU NEED HELP WITH ANYTHING?
HELP?
HMM...
どき どき
BA-DUMP BA-DUMP
NOPE...
CAN'T SAY THAT I DO...
WHY?
N-NEVERMIND. NO REASON.
ANYWAY, KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!
MISS...
IT'S FINE! ON TO THE NEXT ONE!
のこ のこ
TAP TAP
MIC
24H

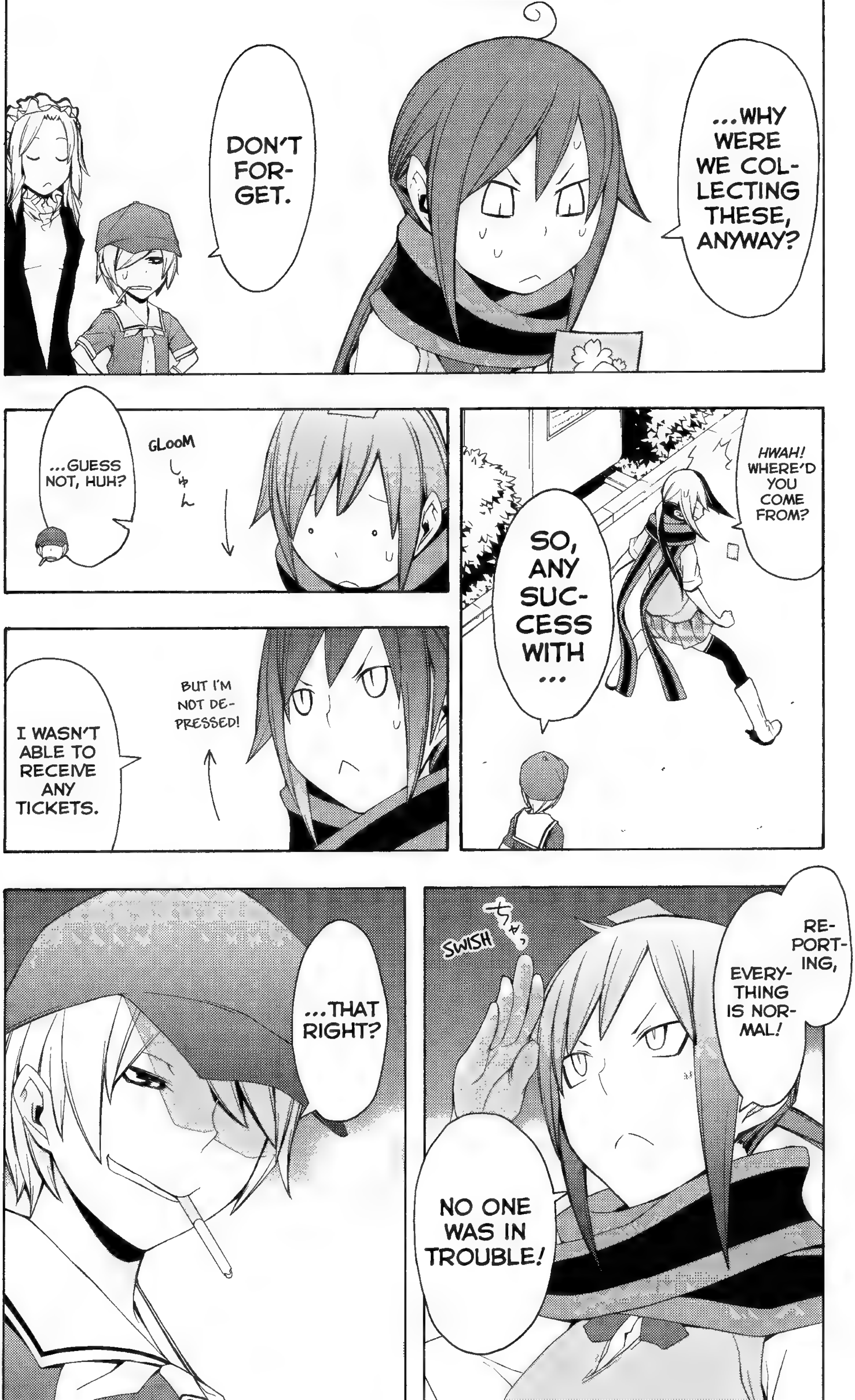

HMMMM...
の TAP

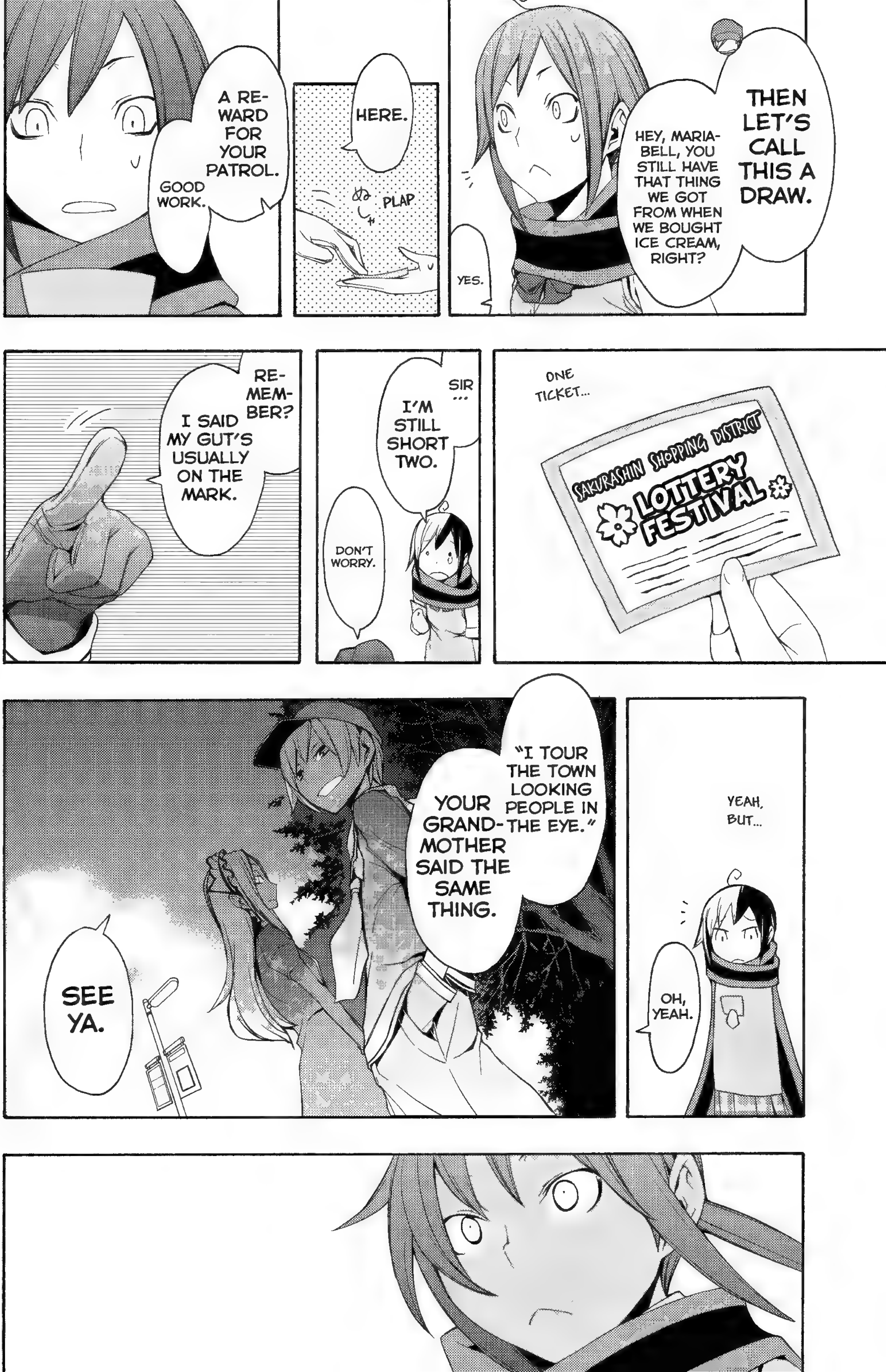

STILL NOTHING ...
とぼ とぼ
PLOD PLOD
MISS ...
LET'S CALL IT QUITS, SHALL WE?
HUH?
BUT WE STILL HAVEN'T COLLECTED ANY MORE TICKETS.
AT THIS RATE ...
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
THE IDEA WAS TO RECEIVE TICKETS IN EXCHANGE FOR HELPING THOSE IN NEED, RIGHT?
UH-HUH.
THEN SHOULDN'T WE BE GLAD?

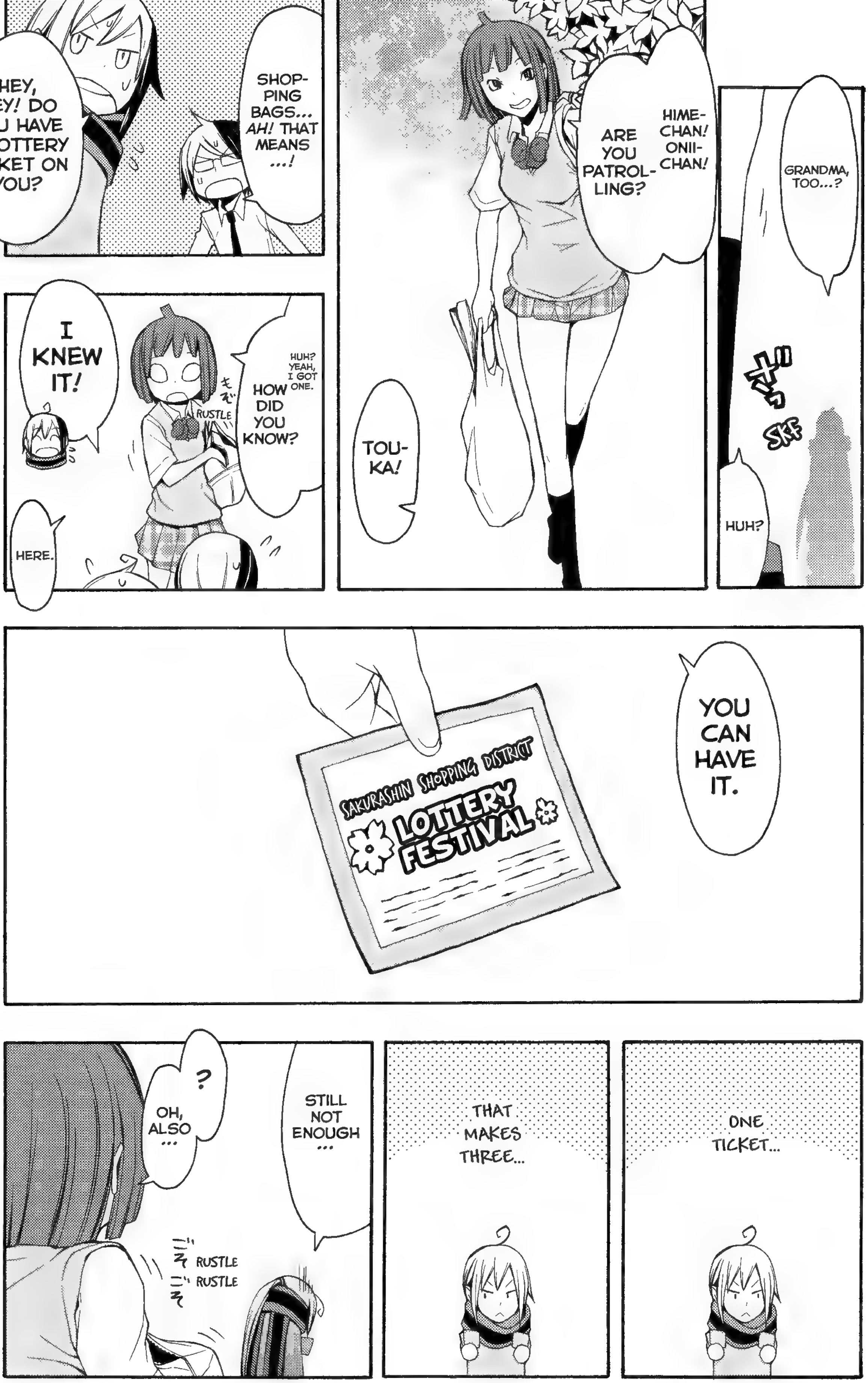

NOT A SINGLE PERSON IN TOWN WAS IN NEED.
I'D SAY THAT MAKES TODAY'S PATROL A GREAT SUCCESS.
AS YOUR SECRETARY, I CAN ASSURE YOU THE TOWN IS IMPROVING LITTLE BY LITTLE.
THE REASON YOU AREN'T WRITING AS MUCH IN THE HIME MEMO...
...IS PROBABLY LINKED TO THAT, DON'T YOU THINK?
...

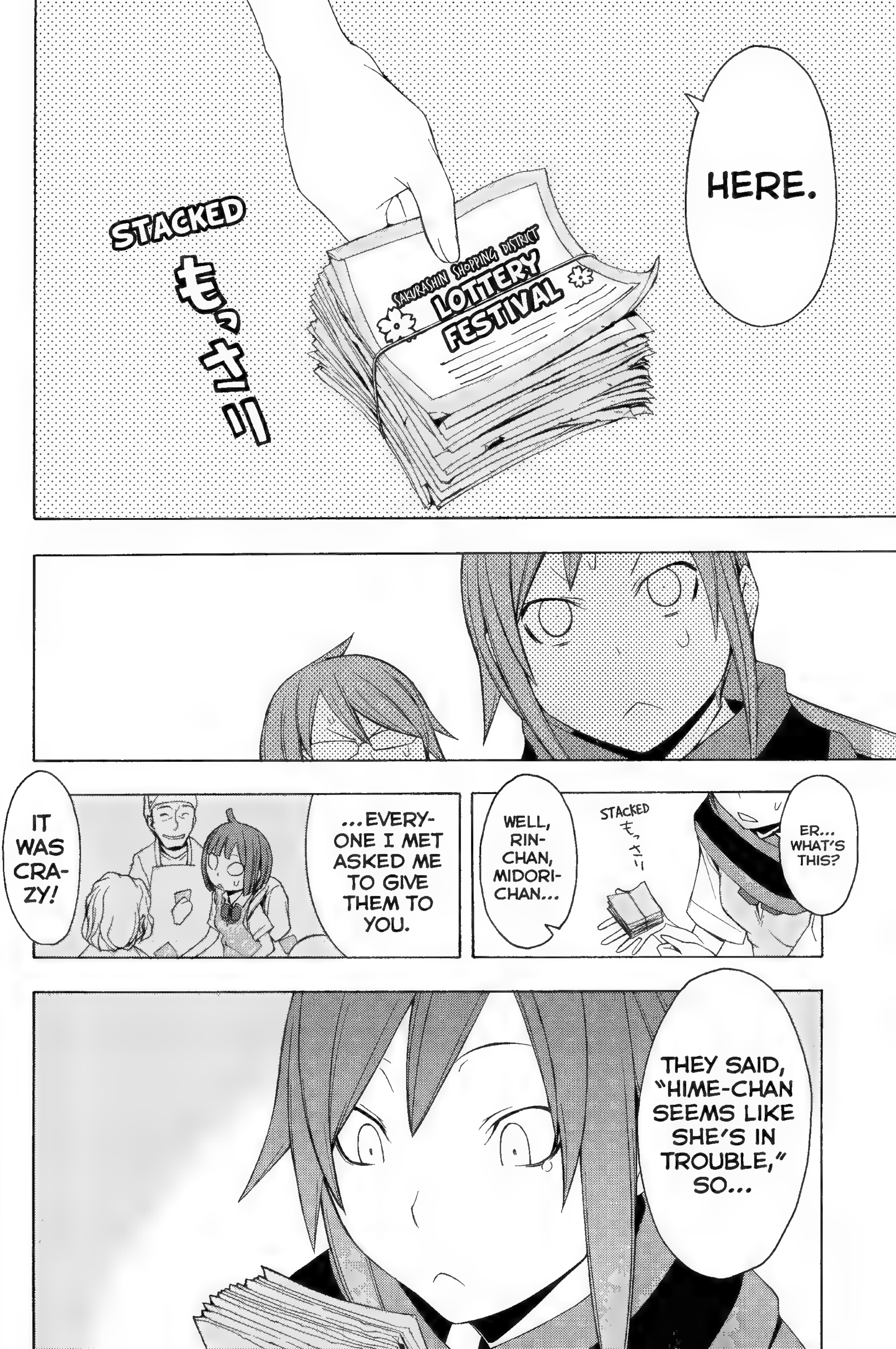

AND ALL OF THIS...
...IS BECAUSE YOU DON'T SPEND ALL YOUR TIME LOOKING AT THE SUPERNATURAL SKY ABOVE...
...BUT KEEP YOUR FEET PLANTED FIRMLY ON THE GROUND AND YOUR EYES ON THE PEOPLE.
IF NOT FOR THAT, THIS TOWN WOULDN'T HAVE IMPROVED AS MUCH AS IT HAS.
AS FOR THE MORE *COMPLICATED* MATTERS, AKINA AND I ARE HERE TO HELP.
SO DON'T WORRY AND KEEP YOUR SIGHT AT EYE LEVEL, MISS.
...
FOR BEING KYOSUKE, YOU KNOW WHAT TO SAY SOMETIMES...
OUCH.

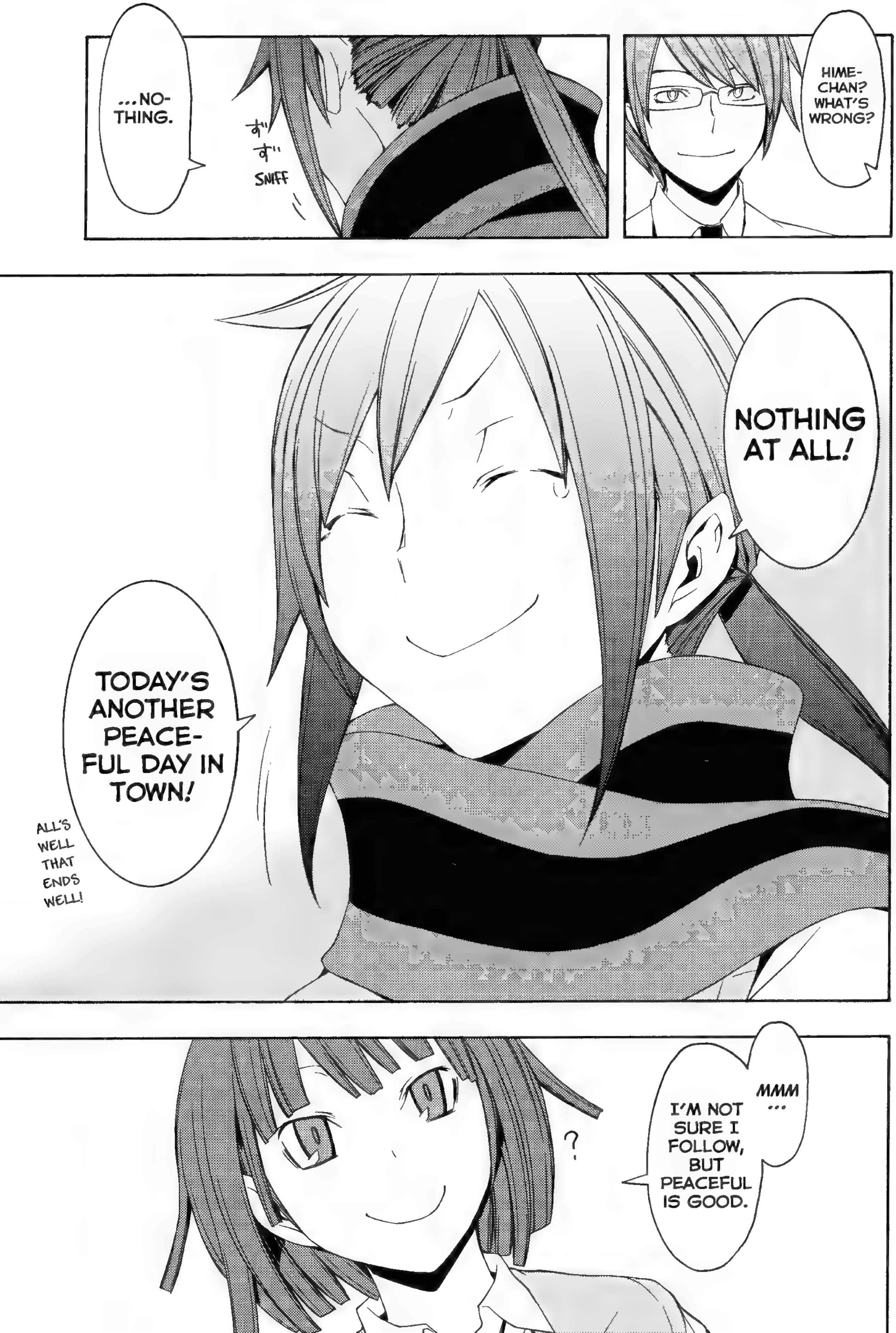

BUT REALLY, FOR THE PEOPLE JUST BARELY MAINTAINING THEIR NORMAL LIVES IN THIS COMPLICATED TOWN...
...IT'S MY JOB TO LIVE THE SAME NORMAL LIFE AS THEM TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITIES, RIGHT?
IF I'M ALWAYS LOOKING ABOVE, I'LL TRIP OVER MY OWN FEET.
TO THINK I'D BE ADMONISHED BY YOU OF ALL PEOPLE.
もて
PEP
MY APOLOGIES.
"A KYOSUKE MAY GIVE A WISE MAN COUNSEL." THERE...
OH, THIS MIGHT WORK AS A NEW IDIOM.
YEAH...
A SIMILAR SAYING ALREADY EXISTS.
AND IT'S AN IDIOM.
BUT WHAT CAME OVER ME?
I WANTED TICKETS ENOUGH TO HOPE THERE WOULD BE PEOPLE IN TROUBLE.
SAKURSHIN SHOPPING
LOTTERY FESTIVAL
TALK ABOUT PUTTING THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE.
I FORGOT THE REASON WE'RE EVEN PATROLLING IN THE FIRST PLACE.
HA HA.

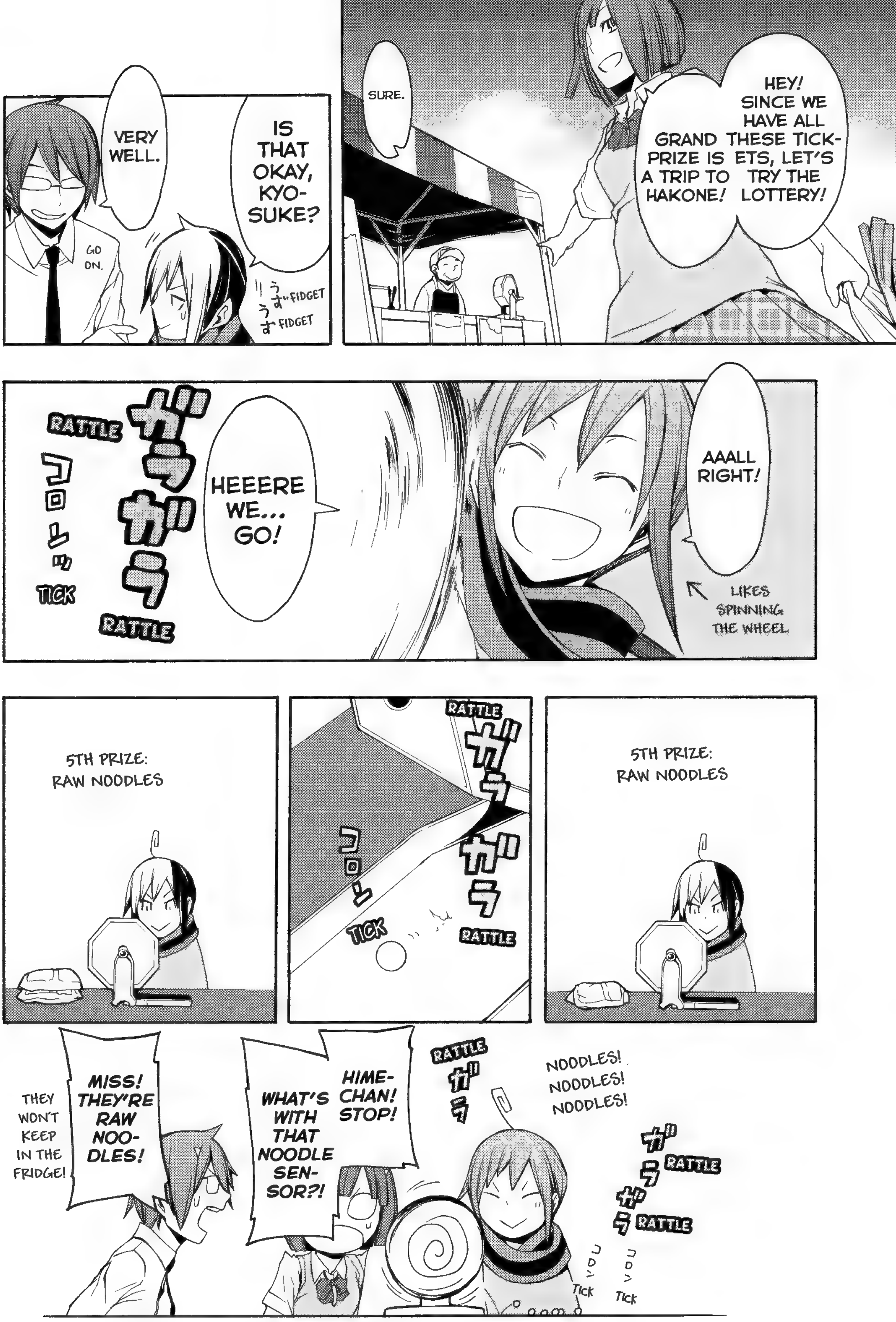

...WHY WERE WE COLLECTING THESE, ANYWAY?
DON'T FORGET.
HWAH! WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
SO, ANY SUCCESS WITH...
GLOOM しゅん
...GUESS NOT, HUH?
BUT I'M NOT DEPRESSED!
I WASN'T ABLE TO RECEIVE ANY TICKETS.
SWISH ちゃっ
REPORTING, EVERYTHING IS NORMAL!
NO ONE WAS IN TROUBLE!
...THAT RIGHT?


THEN LET'S CALL THIS A DRAW.
HEY, MARIABELL, YOU STILL HAVE THAT THING WE GOT FROM WHEN WE BOUGHT ICE CREAM, RIGHT?
YES.
HERE.
ぬっ
PLAP
A REWARD FOR YOUR PATROL.
GOOD WORK.
ONE TICKET...
SAKURASHIN SHOPPING DISTRICT
LOTTERY FESTIVAL
SIR...
I'M STILL SHORT TWO.
DON'T WORRY.
REMEMBER?
I SAID MY GUT'S USUALLY ON THE MARK.
YEAH, BUT...
OH, YEAH.
"I TOUR THE TOWN LOOKING PEOPLE IN THE EYE."
YOUR GRANDMOTHER SAID THE SAME THING.
SEE YA.


GRANDMA, TOO...?
ズッ SKF
HUH?
HIME-CHAN! ONII-CHAN!
ARE YOU PATROLLING?
TOU-KA!
SHOPPING BAGS... AH! THAT MEANS...!
HEY, HEY! DO YOU HAVE A LOTTERY TICKET ON YOU?
HUH? YEAH, I GOT ONE.
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
もぞ RUSTLE
I KNEW IT!
HERE.
YOU CAN HAVE IT.
SAKURASHIN SHOPPING DISTRICT
LOTTERY FESTIVAL
ONE TICKET...
THAT MAKES THREE...
STILL NOT ENOUGH...
?
OH, ALSO...
ごそ RUSTLE
ごそ RUSTLE


HERE.
STACKED
もっさり
SAKURASHIN SHOPPING DISTRICT
LOTTERY FESTIVAL
ER... WHAT'S THIS?
STACKED
もっさり
WELL, RIN-CHAN, MIDORI-CHAN...
...EVERYONE I MET ASKED ME TO GIVE THEM TO YOU.
IT WAS CRAZY!
THEY SAID, "HIME-CHAN SEEMS LIKE SHE'S IN TROUBLE," SO...


HIME-CHAN? WHAT'S WRONG?
...NO-THING.
ずず
SNIFF
NOTHING AT ALL!
TODAY'S ANOTHER PEACEFUL DAY IN TOWN!
ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!
?
MMM... I'M NOT SURE I FOLLOW, BUT PEACEFUL IS GOOD.

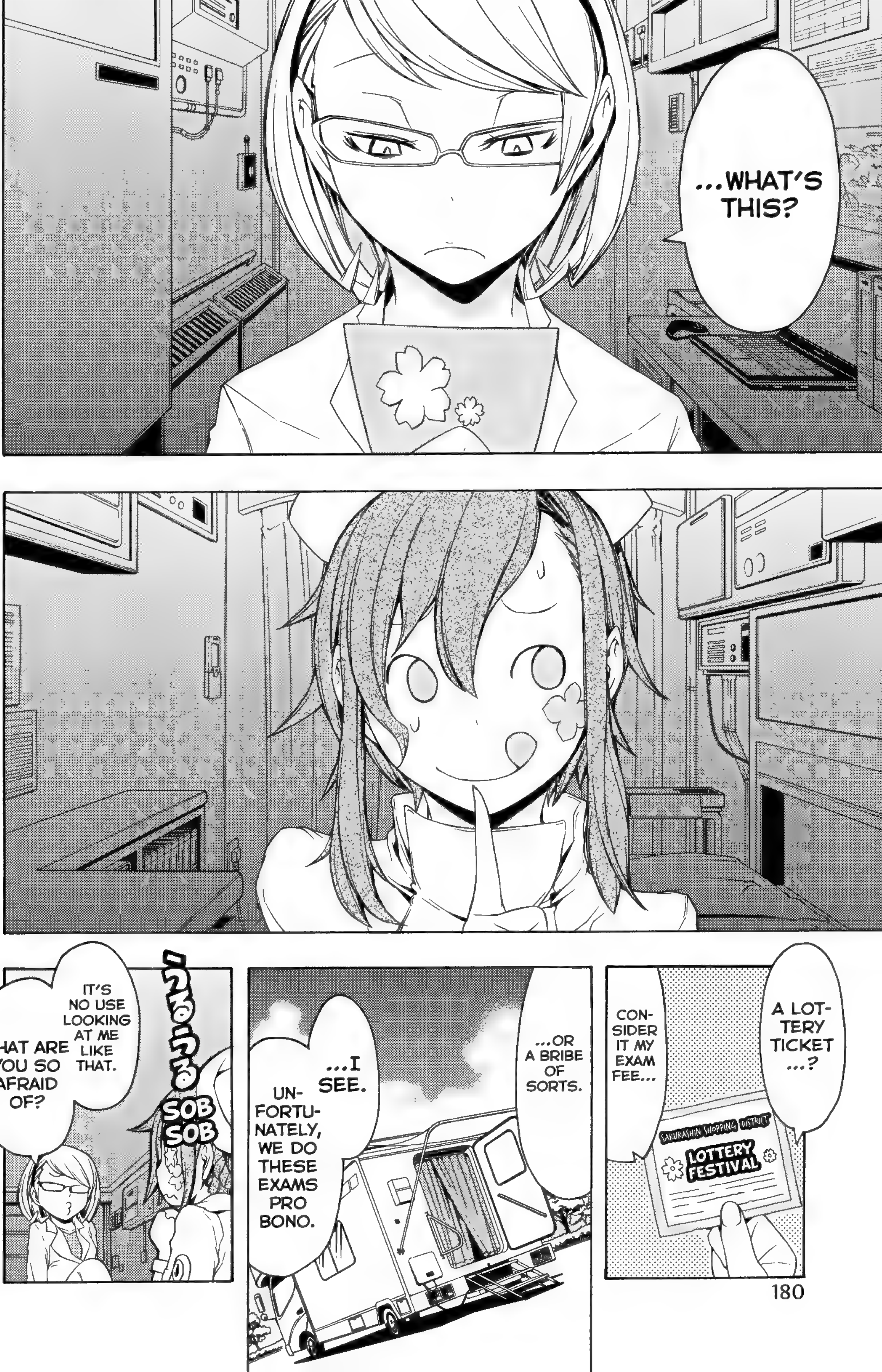

HEY! SINCE WE HAVE ALL THESE TICKETS, LET'S TRY THE LOTTERY!
GRAND PRIZE IS A TRIP TO HAKONE!
SURE.
IS THAT OKAY, KYOSUKE?
うずうず FIDGET FIDGET
VERY WELL.
GO ON.
AAALL RIGHT!
LIKES SPINNING THE WHEEL
HEEERE WE... GO!
ガラガラ RATTLE RATTLE
コロンッ TICK
5TH PRIZE: RAW NOODLES
ガラガラ RATTLE RATTLE
コロン TICK
5TH PRIZE: RAW NOODLES
ガラガラ RATTLE RATTLE
コロン Tick
コロン Tick
NOODLES! NOODLES! NOODLES!
ガラ RATTLE
HIME-CHAN! STOP!
WHAT'S WITH THAT NOODLE SENSOR?!
MISS! THEY'RE RAW NOODLES!
THEY WON'T KEEP IN THE FRIDGE!

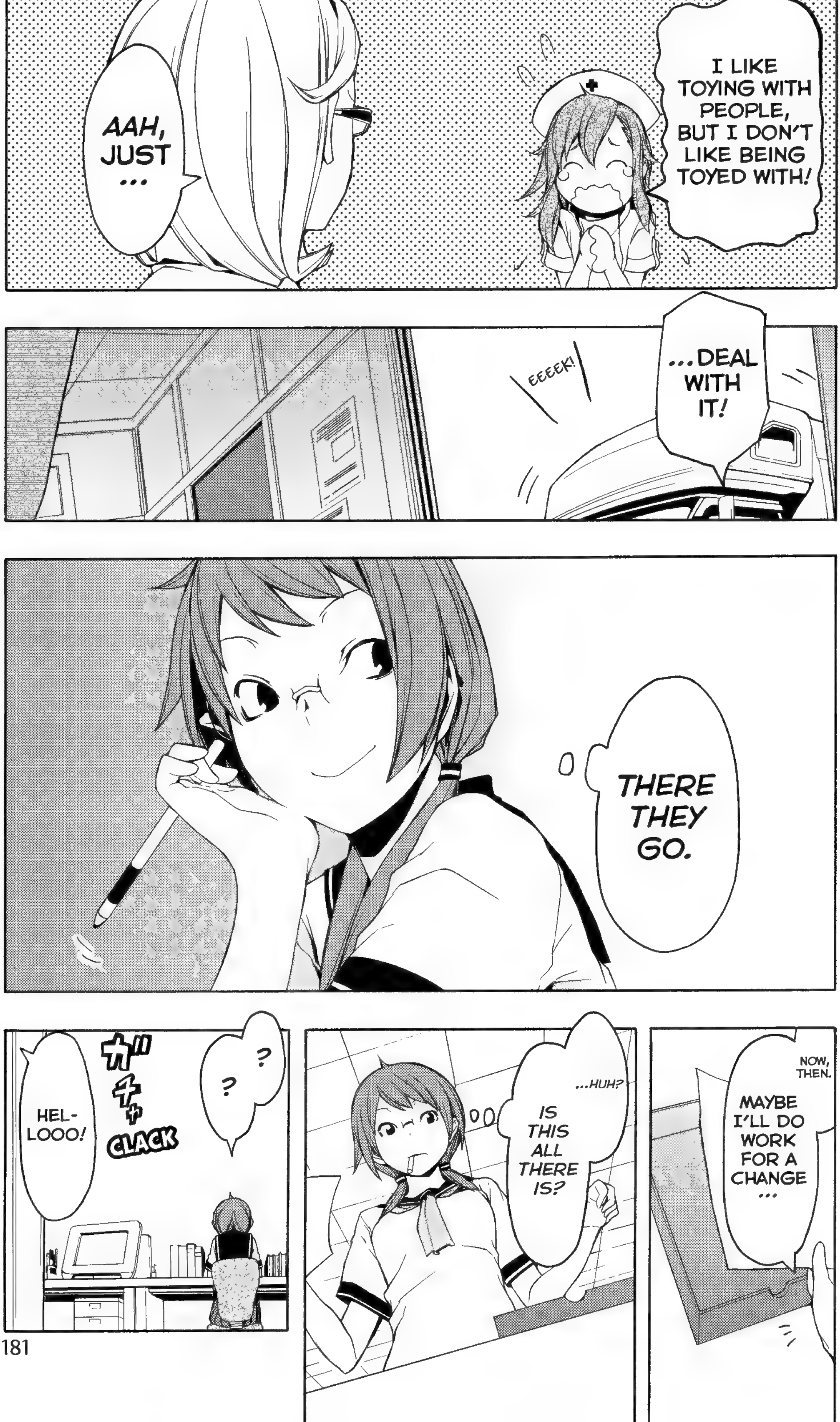
55TH NIGHT SUMMER'S COMING (PART TWO) END

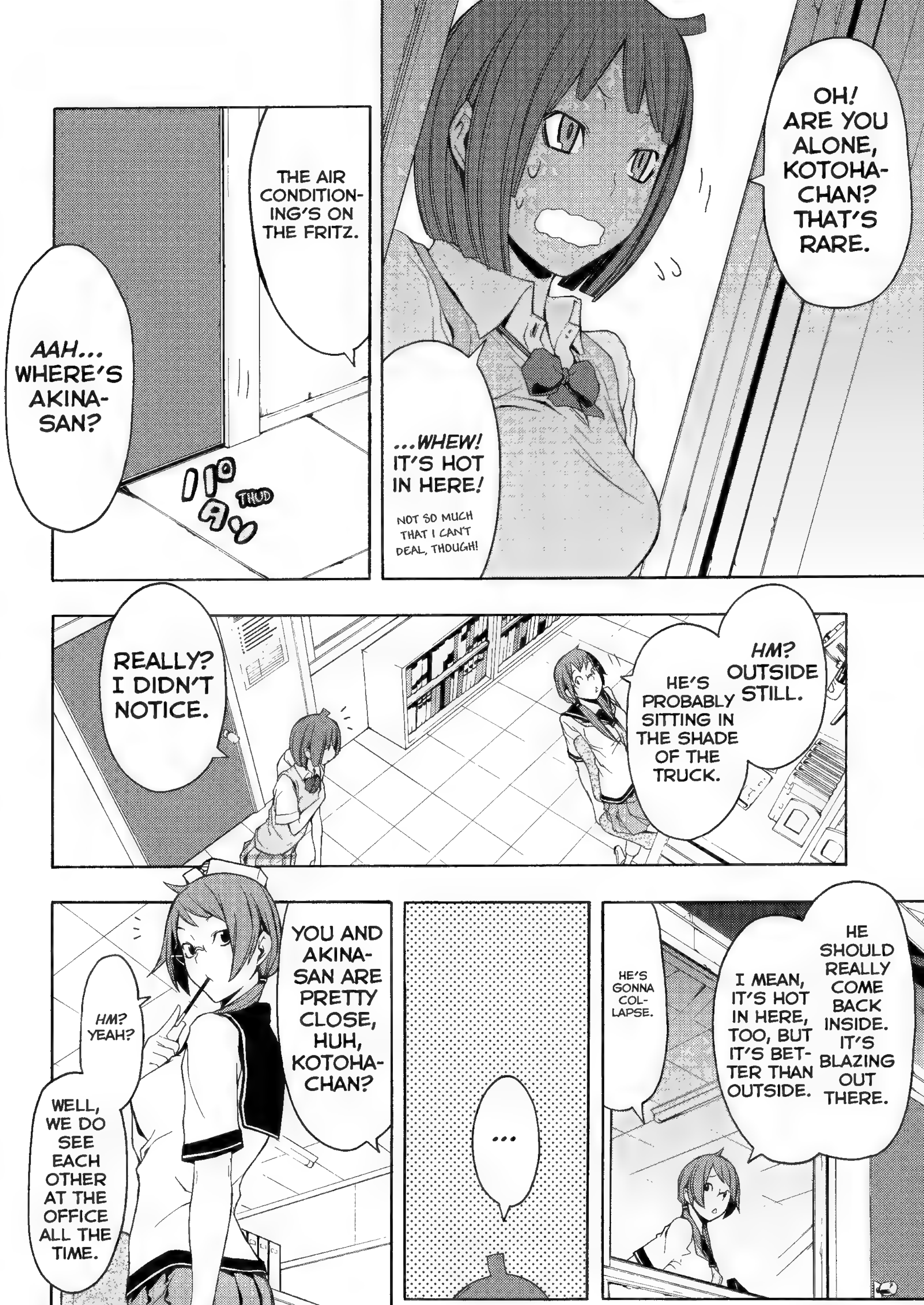
20 PACKS OF NOODLES
THAT'S BARELY A DAY'S WORTH.

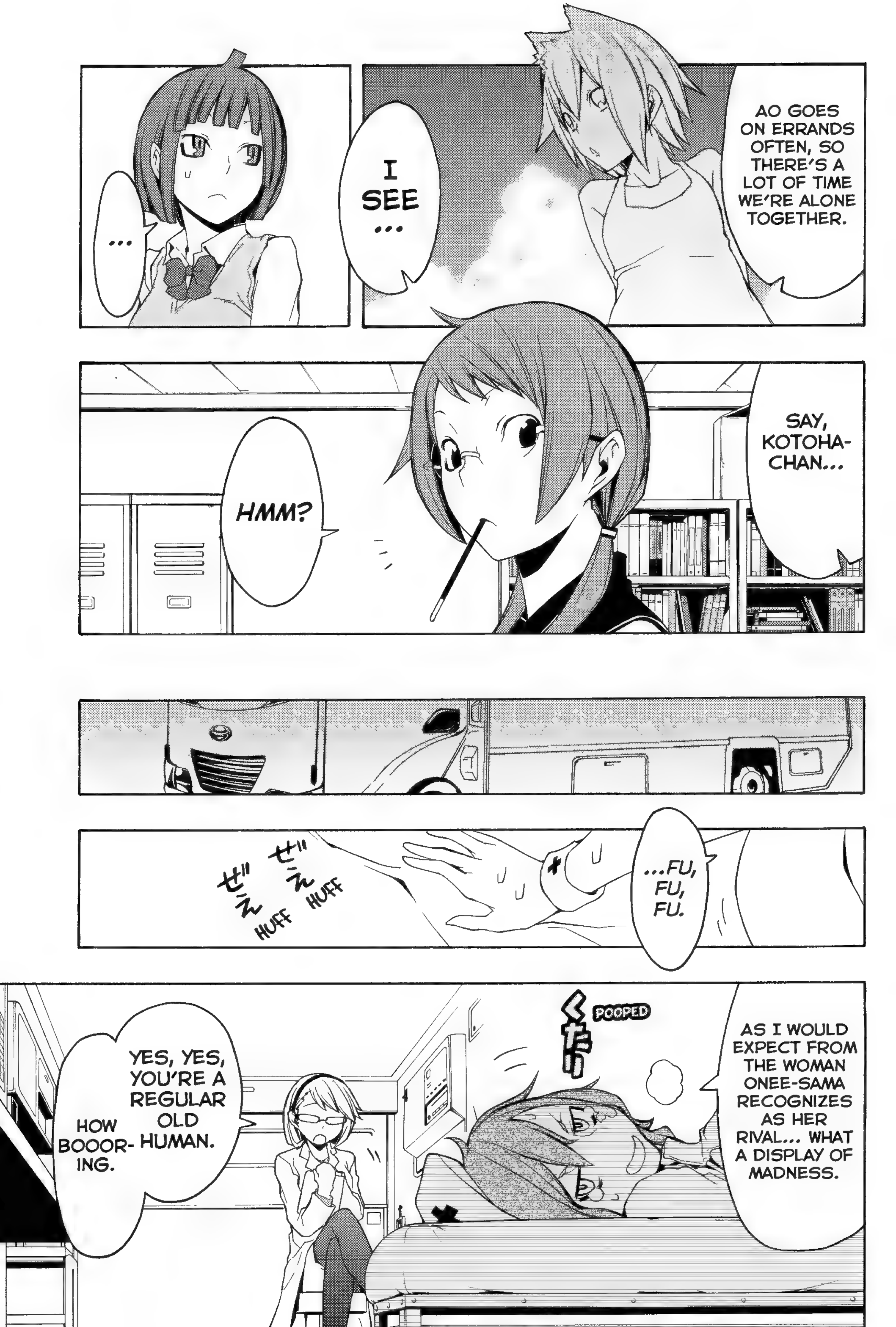
YOZAKURA QUARTET 10

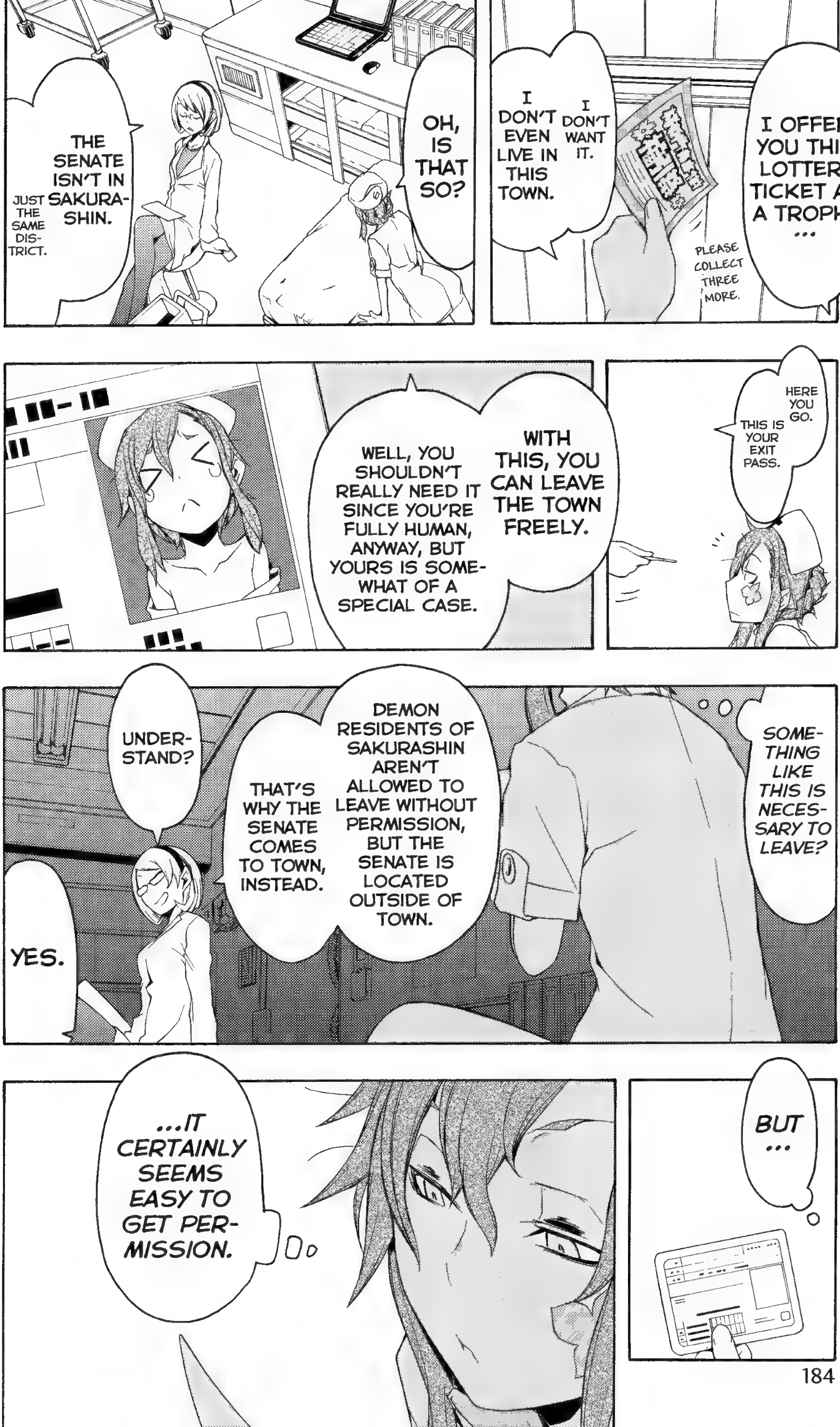
#56 SUMMER'S COMING (EPILOGUE)

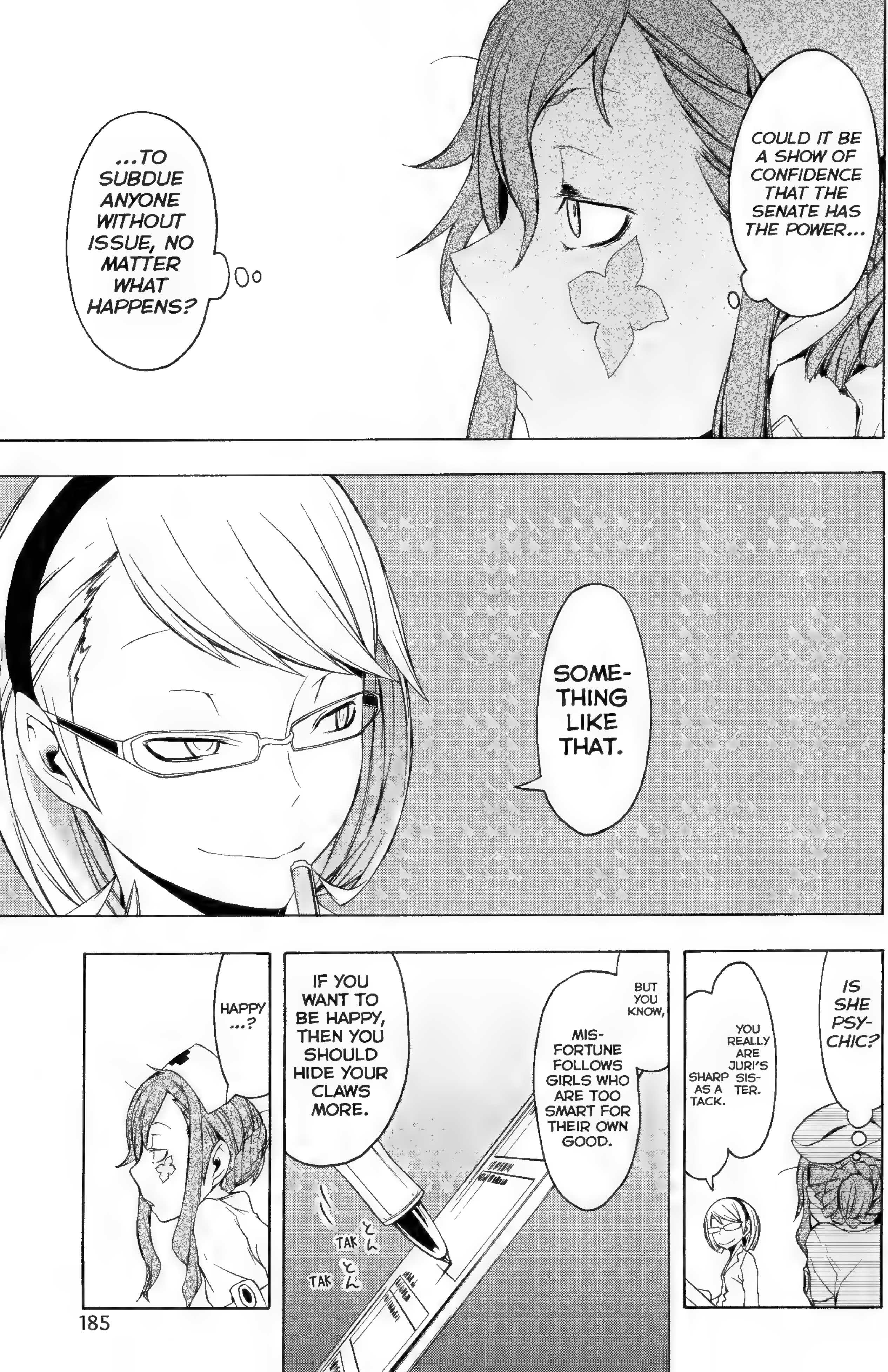

...WHAT'S THIS?
A LOTTERY TICKET ...?
CONSIDER IT MY EXAM FEE...
SAKURASHIN SHOPPING DISTRICT
LOTTERY FESTIVAL
...OR A BRIBE OF SORTS.
...I SEE.
UNFORTUNATELY, WE DO THESE EXAMS PRO BONO.
うるうる
SOB SOB
IT'S NO USE LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT.
WHAT ARE YOU SO AFRAID OF?

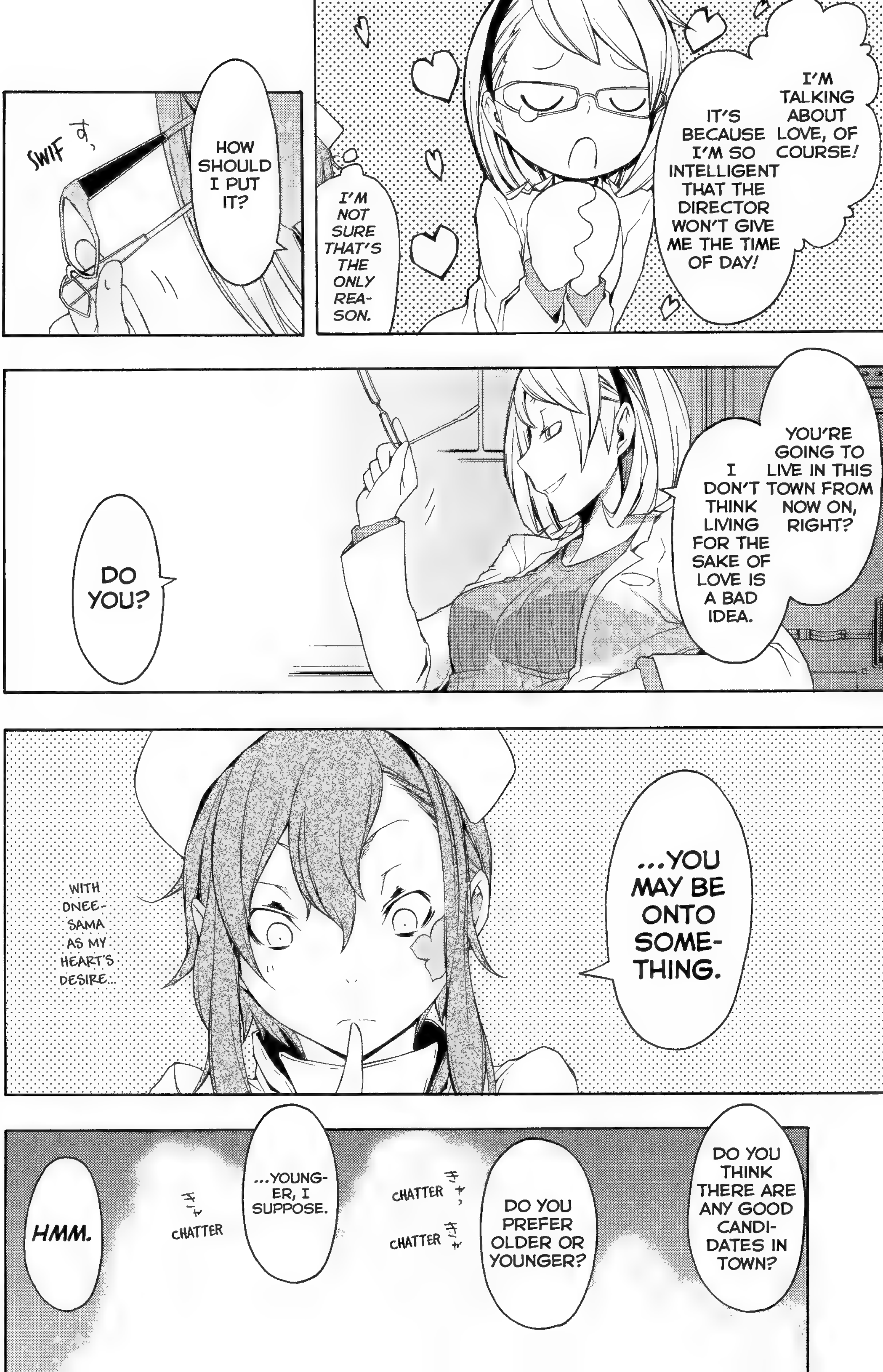

I LIKE TOYING WITH PEOPLE, BUT I DON'T LIKE BEING TOYED WITH!
AAH, JUST ...
...DEAL WITH IT!
EEEEK!
THERE THEY GO.
NOW, THEN.
MAYBE I'LL DO WORK FOR A CHANGE ...
...HUH?
IS THIS ALL THERE IS?
? ?
ガチャ CLACK
HEL-LOOO!

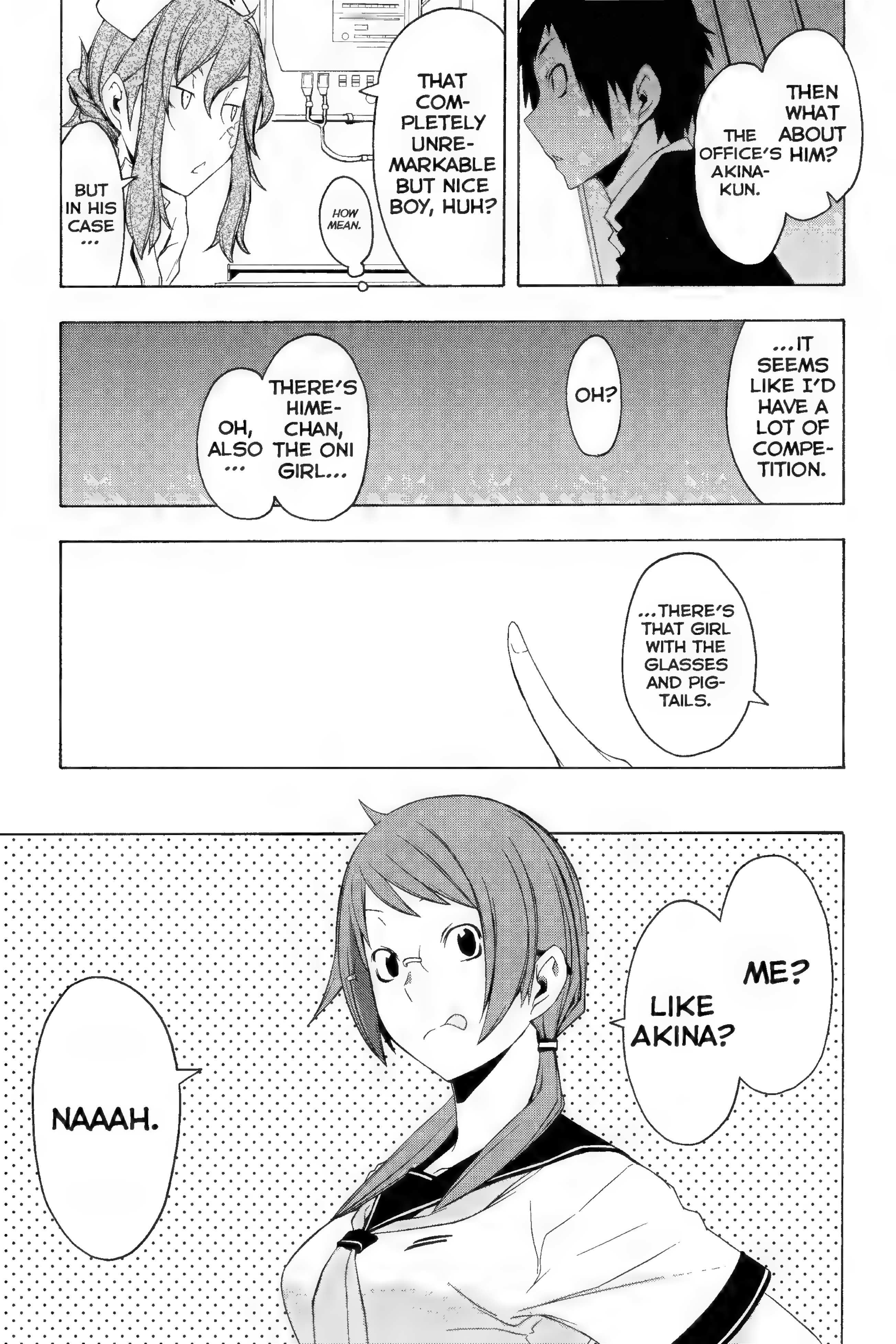

OH! ARE YOU ALONE, KOTOHA-CHAN? THAT'S RARE.
...WHEW! IT'S HOT IN HERE!
NOT SO MUCH THAT I CAN'T DEAL, THOUGH!
THE AIR CONDITIONING'S ON THE FRITZ.
AAH... WHERE'S AKINA-SAN?
THUD
HM? OUTSIDE STILL.
HE'S PROBABLY SITTING IN THE SHADE OF THE TRUCK.
REALLY? I DIDN'T NOTICE.
HE SHOULD REALLY COME BACK INSIDE. IT'S BLAZING OUT THERE.
I MEAN, IT'S HOT IN HERE, TOO, BUT IT'S BETTER THAN OUTSIDE.
HE'S GONNA COLLAPSE.
...
YOU AND AKINA-SAN ARE PRETTY CLOSE, HUH, KOTOHA-CHAN?
HM? YEAH?
WELL, WE DO SEE EACH OTHER AT THE OFFICE ALL THE TIME.

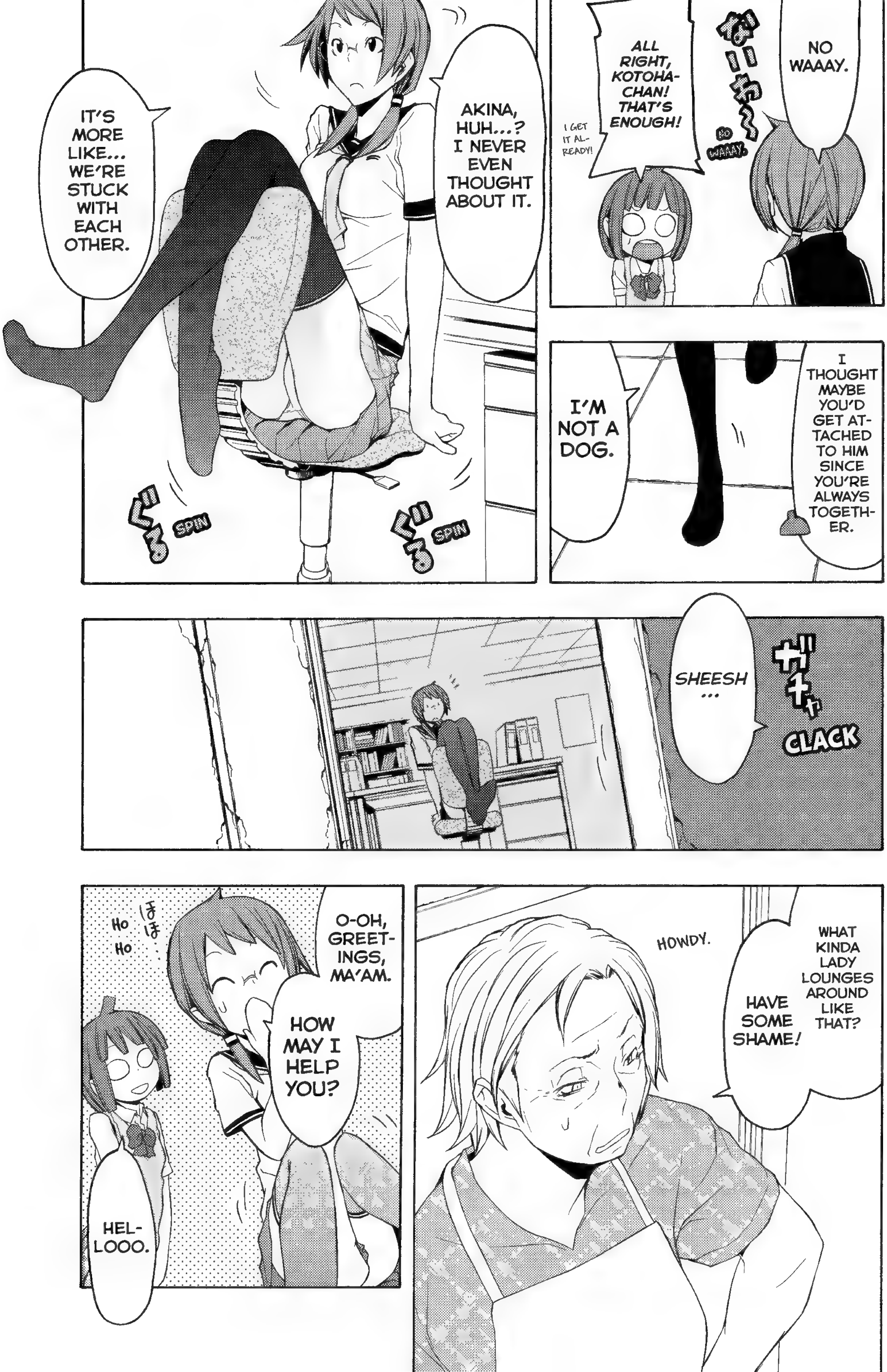

AO GOES ON ERRANDS OFTEN, SO THERE'S A LOT OF TIME WE'RE ALONE TOGETHER.
I SEE...
...
SAY, KOTOHA-CHAN...
HMM?
...FU, FU, FU.
ぜぇ ぜぇ
HUFF HUFF
くた
POOPED
AS I WOULD EXPECT FROM THE WOMAN ONEE-SAMA RECOGNIZES AS HER RIVAL... WHAT A DISPLAY OF MADNESS.
YES, YES, YOU'RE A REGULAR OLD HUMAN.
HOW BOOOR-ING.

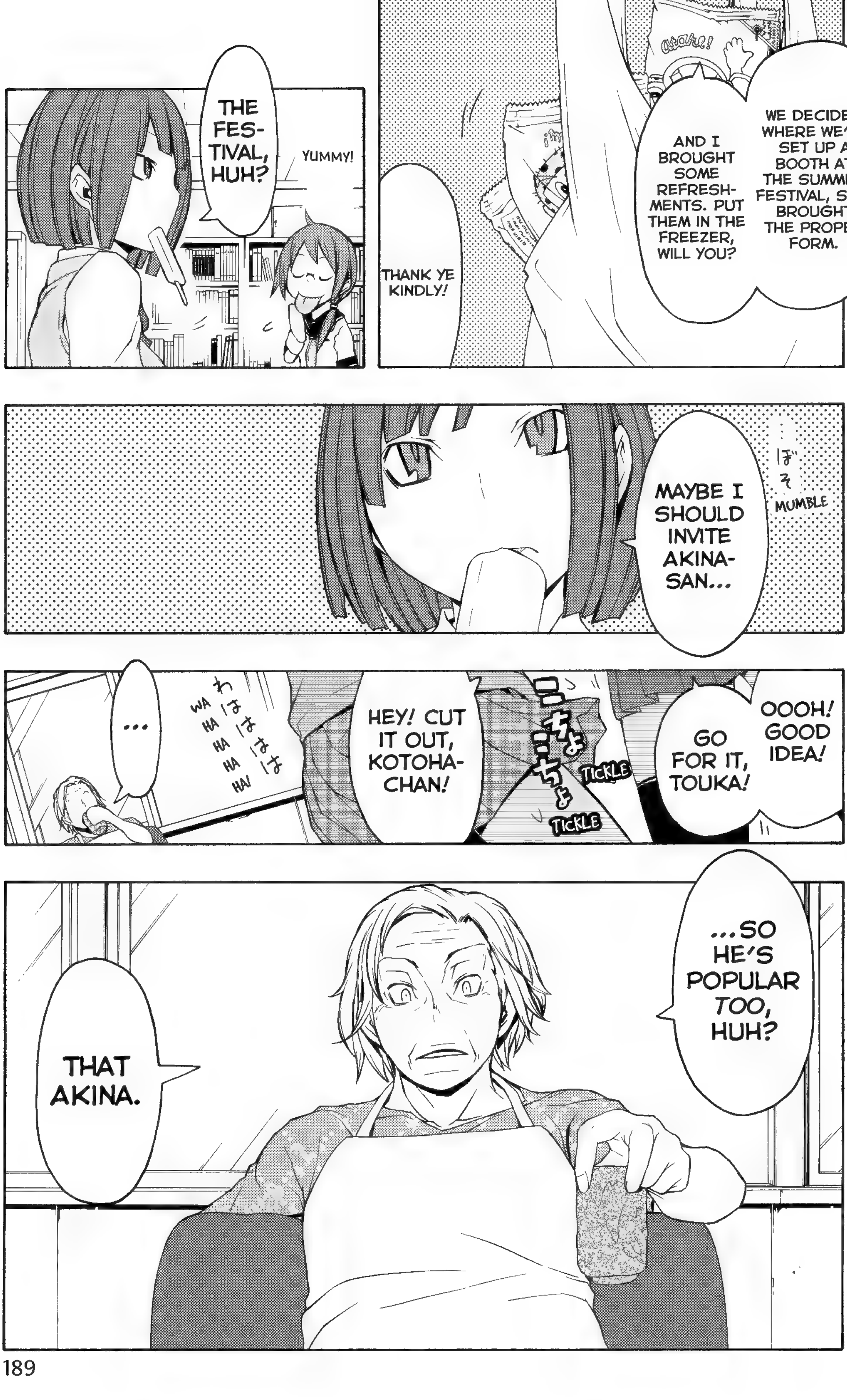

I OFFER YOU THIS LOTTERY TICKET AS A TROPHY...
PLEASE COLLECT THREE MORE.
I DON'T WANT IT.
I DON'T EVEN LIVE IN THIS TOWN.
OH, IS THAT SO?
THE SENATE ISN'T IN SAKURASHIN.
JUST THE SAME DISTRICT.
HERE YOU GO.
THIS IS YOUR EXIT PASS.
WITH THIS, YOU CAN LEAVE THE TOWN FREELY.
WELL, YOU SHOULDN'T REALLY NEED IT SINCE YOU'RE FULLY HUMAN, ANYWAY, BUT YOURS IS SOMEWHAT OF A SPECIAL CASE.
SOMETHING LIKE THIS IS NECESSARY TO LEAVE?
DEMON RESIDENTS OF SAKURASHIN AREN'T ALLOWED TO LEAVE WITHOUT PERMISSION, BUT THE SENATE IS LOCATED OUTSIDE OF TOWN.
THAT'S WHY THE SENATE COMES TO TOWN, INSTEAD.
UNDERSTAND?
YES.
BUT...
...IT CERTAINLY SEEMS EASY TO GET PERMISSION.

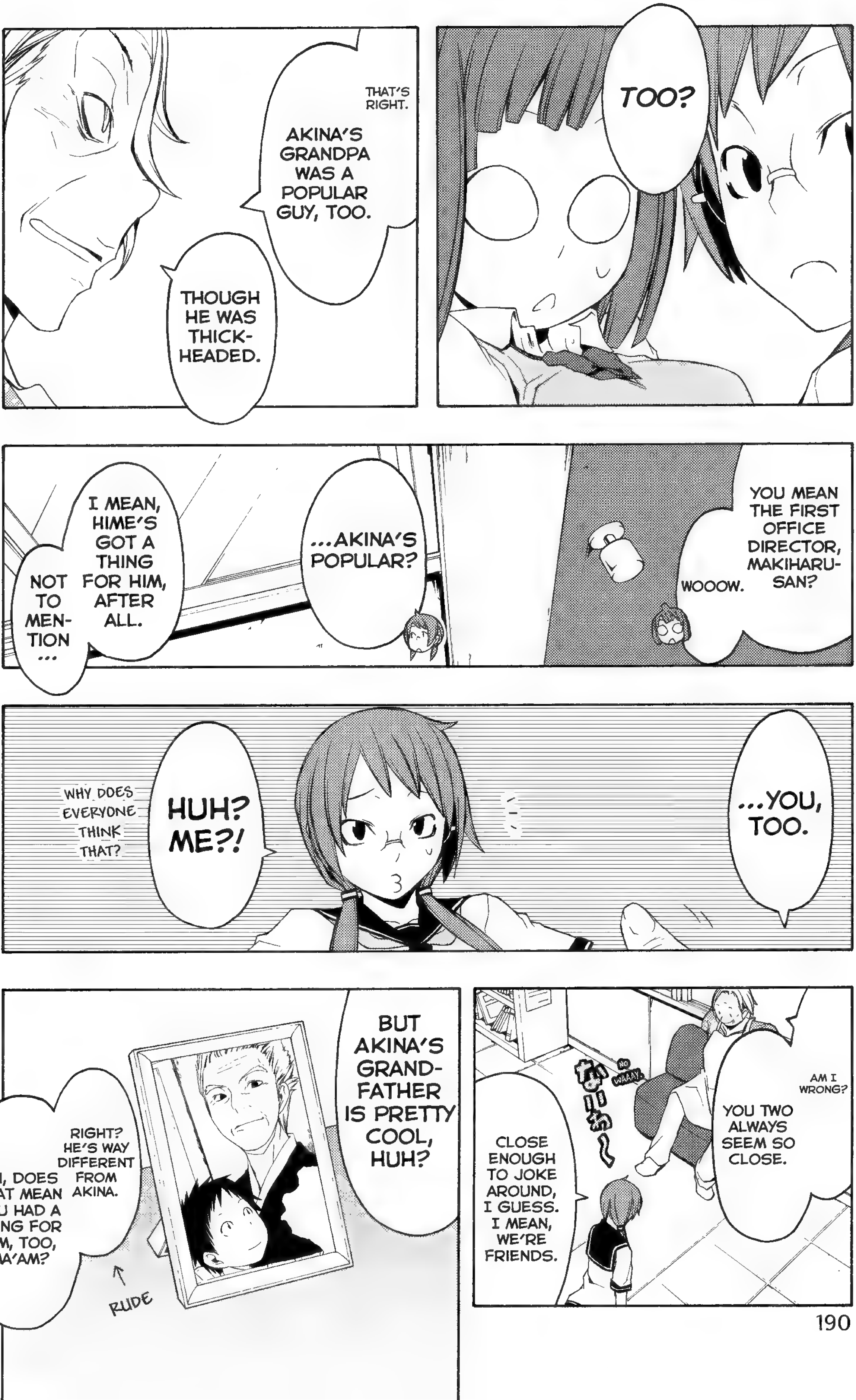

COULD IT BE A SHOW OF CONFIDENCE THAT THE SENATE HAS THE POWER...
...TO SUBDUE ANYONE WITHOUT ISSUE, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
IS SHE PSYCHIC?
YOU REALLY ARE JURI'S SISTER.
SHARP AS A TACK.
BUT YOU KNOW,
MISFORTUNE FOLLOWS GIRLS WHO ARE TOO SMART FOR THEIR OWN GOOD.
とん TAK
とん TAK
IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY, THEN YOU SHOULD HIDE YOUR CLAWS MORE.
HAPPY...?

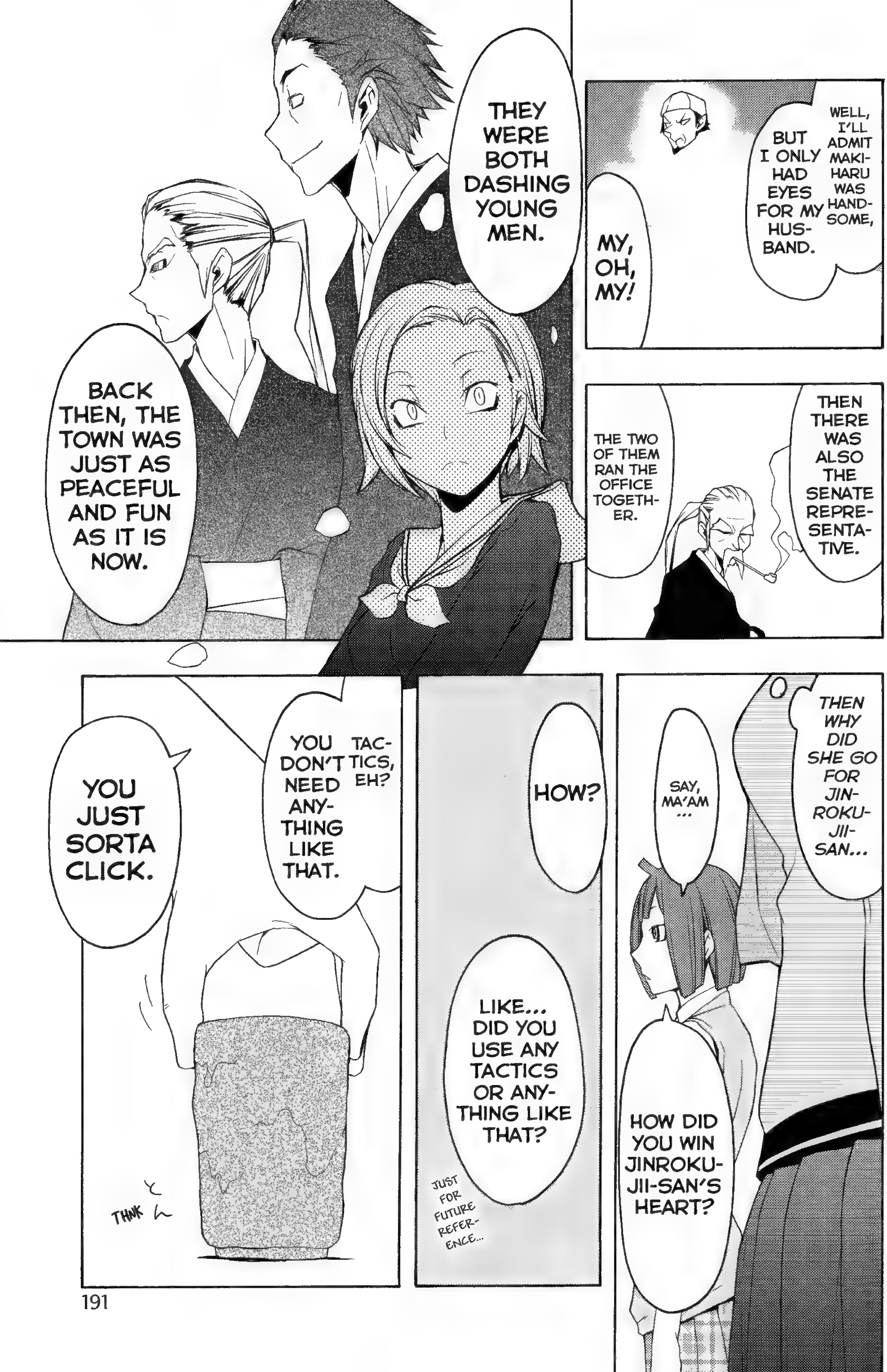

I'M TALKING ABOUT LOVE, OF COURSE!
IT'S BECAUSE I'M SO INTELLIGENT THAT THE DIRECTOR WON'T GIVE ME THE TIME OF DAY!
I'M NOT SURE THAT'S THE ONLY REASON.
HOW SHOULD I PUT IT?
SWIF す,
YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE IN THIS TOWN FROM NOW ON, RIGHT?
I DON'T THINK LIVING FOR THE SAKE OF LOVE IS A BAD IDEA.
DO YOU?
...YOU MAY BE ONTO SOMETHING.
WITH ONEE-SAMA AS MY HEART'S DESIRE...
DO YOU THINK THERE ARE ANY GOOD CANDIDATES IN TOWN?
DO YOU PREFER OLDER OR YOUNGER?
CHATTER きゃ,
CHATTER きゃ
...YOUNGER, I SUPPOSE.
CHATTER きゃ
HMM.

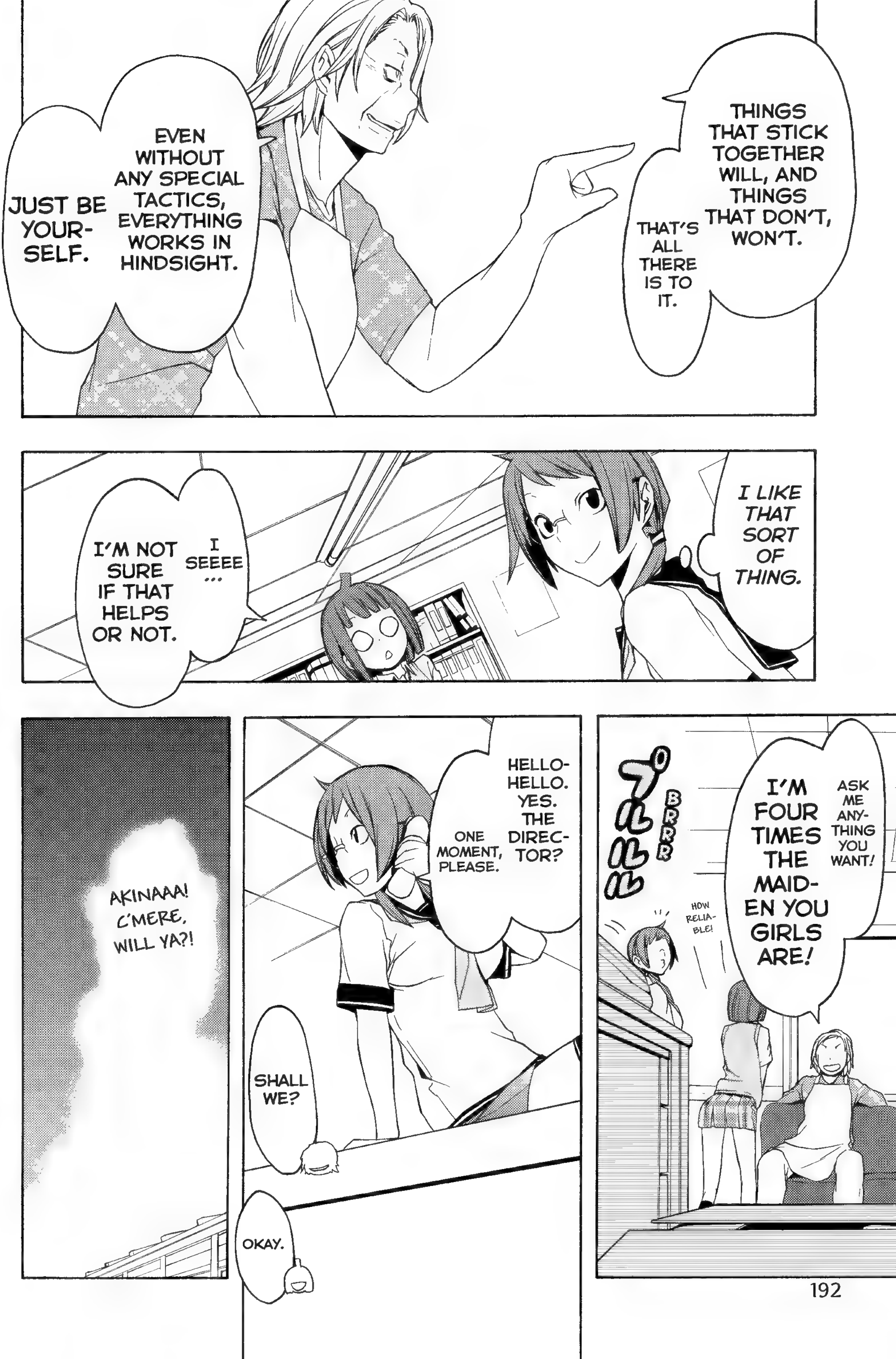

THEN WHAT ABOUT HIM? THE OFFICE'S AKINA-KUN.
THAT COMPLETELY UNREMARKABLE BUT NICE BOY, HUH?
HOW MEAN.
BUT IN HIS CASE...
...IT SEEMS LIKE I'D HAVE A LOT OF COMPETITION.
OH?
THERE'S HIME-CHAN, THE ONI GIRL...
OH, ALSO...
...THERE'S THAT GIRL WITH THE GLASSES AND PIGTAILS.
ME? LIKE AKINA?
NAAAH.

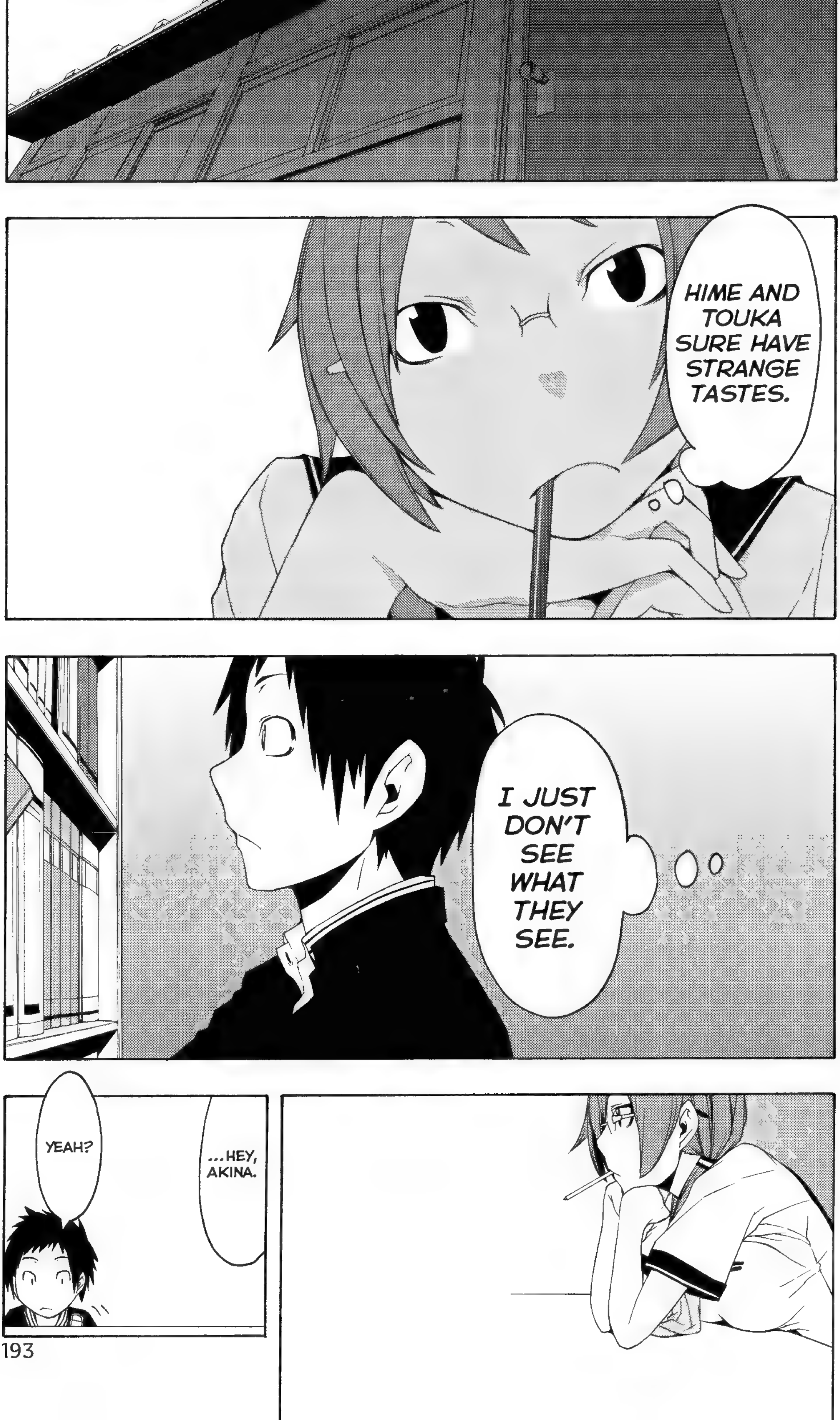

NO WAAAY.
ないわ～
NO WAAAY.
ALL RIGHT, KOTOHA-CHAN! THAT'S ENOUGH!
I GET IT ALREADY!
I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU'D GET ATTACHED TO HIM SINCE YOU'RE ALWAYS TOGETHER.
I'M NOT A DOG.
AKINA, HUH...? I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
IT'S MORE LIKE... WE'RE STUCK WITH EACH OTHER.
ぐる
SPIN
ぐる
SPIN
ガチャ
CLACK
SHEESH...
WHAT KINDA LADY LOUNGES AROUND LIKE THAT?
HAVE SOME SHAME!
HOWDY.
O-OH, GREETINGS, MA'AM.
HOW MAY I HELP YOU?
ほほ
Ho Ho
HEL-LOOO.

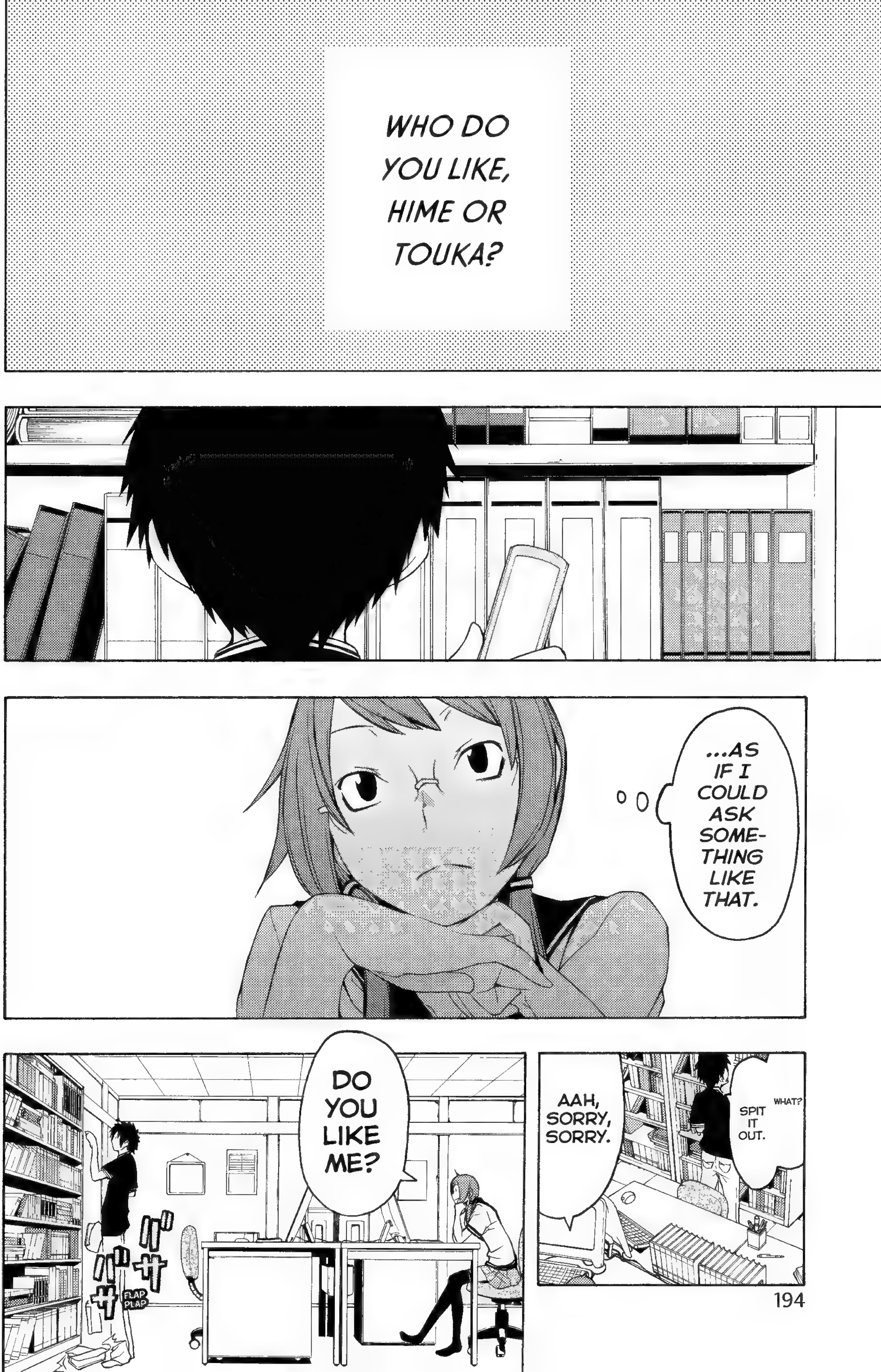

atari!
WE DECIDED WHERE WE'LL SET UP A BOOTH AT THE SUMMER FESTIVAL, SO I BROUGHT THE PROPER FORM.
AND I BROUGHT SOME REFRESHMENTS. PUT THEM IN THE FREEZER, WILL YOU?
THANK YE KINDLY!
THE FESTIVAL, HUH?
YUMMY!
…ぼそ
MUMBLE
MAYBE I SHOULD INVITE AKINA-SAN...
OOOH! GOOD IDEA!
GO FOR IT, TOUKA!
こちょこちょ
TICKLE
TICKLE
HEY! CUT IT OUT, KOTOHA-CHAN!
わははははは
WA HA HA HA HA!
...
...SO HE'S POPULAR *TOO*, HUH?
THAT AKINA.

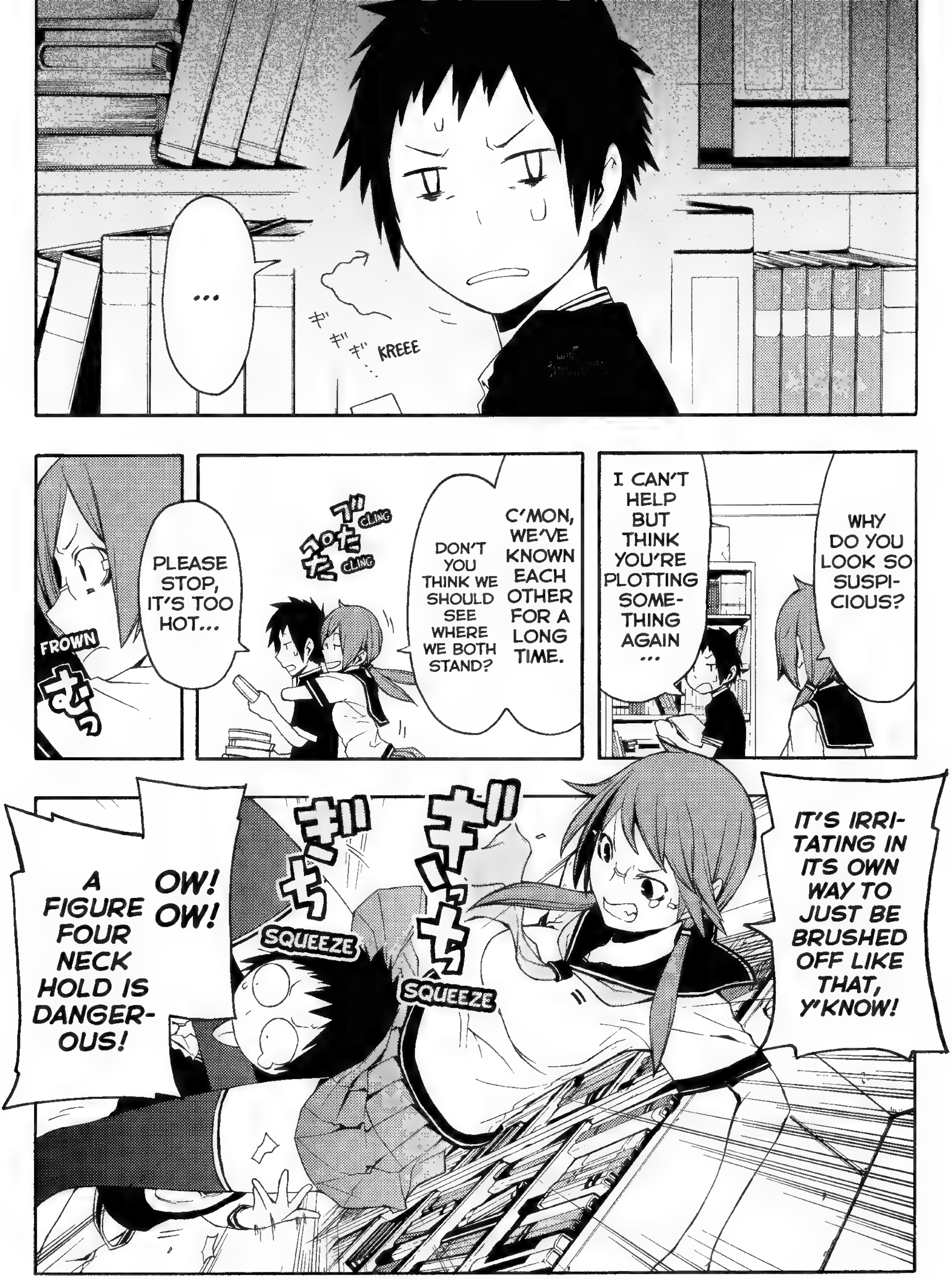

TOO?
THAT'S RIGHT.
AKINA'S GRANDPA WAS A POPULAR GUY, TOO.
THOUGH HE WAS THICK-HEADED.
YOU MEAN THE FIRST OFFICE DIRECTOR, MAKIHARU-SAN?
WOOOW.
...AKINA'S POPULAR?
I MEAN, HIME'S GOT A THING FOR HIM, AFTER ALL.
NOT TO MENTION...
...YOU, TOO.
HUH? ME?!
WHY DOES EVERYONE THINK THAT?
AM I WRONG?
YOU TWO ALWAYS SEEM SO CLOSE.
ないわ〜
NO WAAAY.
CLOSE ENOUGH TO JOKE AROUND, I GUESS. I MEAN, WE'RE FRIENDS.
BUT AKINA'S GRANDFATHER IS PRETTY COOL, HUH?
RIGHT? HE'S WAY DIFFERENT FROM AKINA.
OH, DOES THAT MEAN YOU HAD A THING FOR HIM, TOO, MA'AM?
RUDE

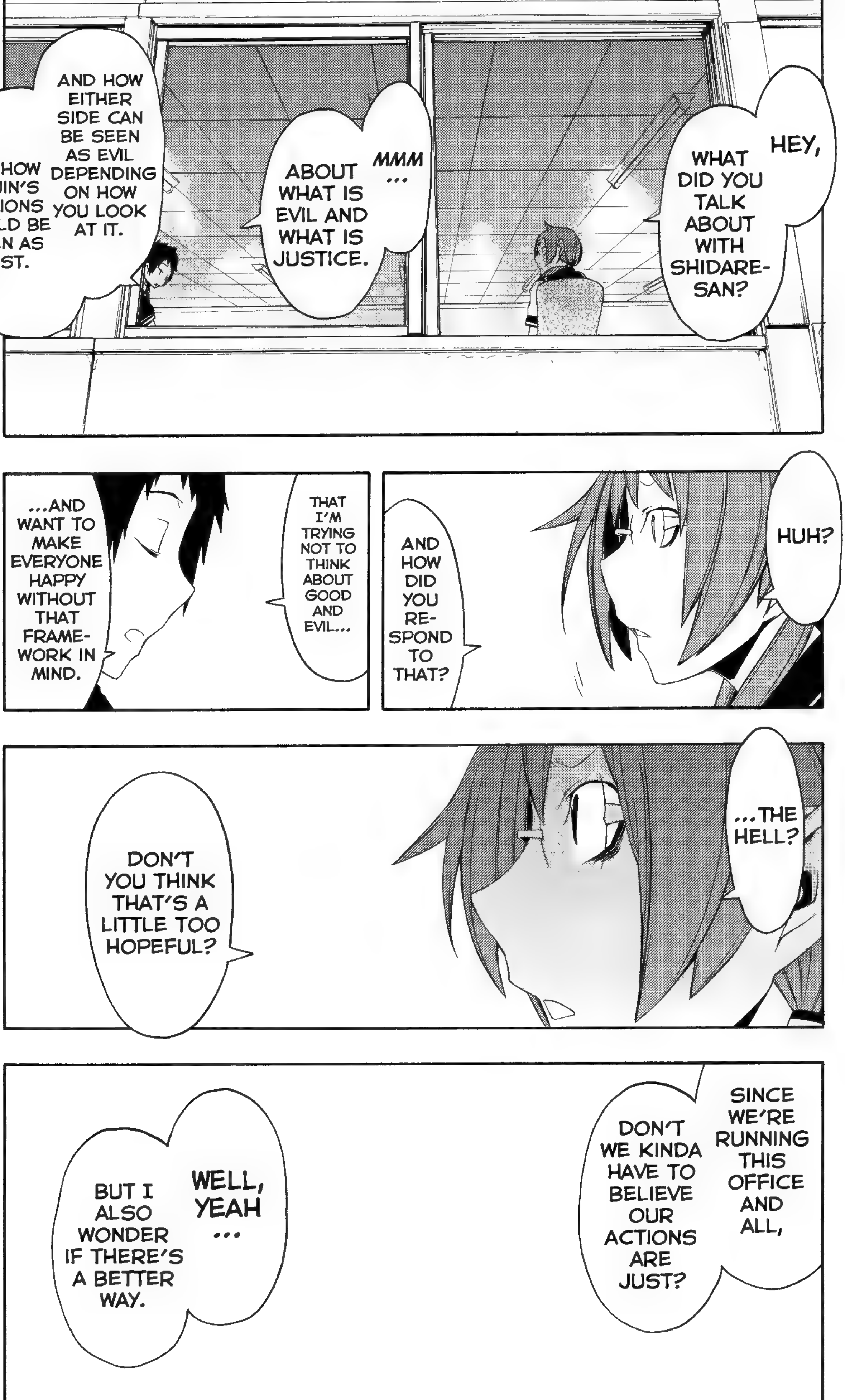

WELL, I'LL ADMIT MAKIHARU WAS HANDSOME,
BUT I ONLY HAD EYES FOR MY HUSBAND.
MY, OH, MY!
THEN THERE WAS ALSO THE SENATE REPRESENTATIVE.
THE TWO OF THEM RAN THE OFFICE TOGETHER.
THEY WERE BOTH DASHING YOUNG MEN.
BACK THEN, THE TOWN WAS JUST AS PEACEFUL AND FUN AS IT IS NOW.
THEN WHY DID SHE GO FOR JINROKU-JII-SAN...
SAY, MA'AM...
HOW DID YOU WIN JINROKU-JII-SAN'S HEART?
HOW?
LIKE... DID YOU USE ANY TACTICS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT?
JUST FOR FUTURE REFERENCE...
TACTICS, EH?
YOU DON'T NEED ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
YOU JUST SORTA CLICK.
とん
THNK

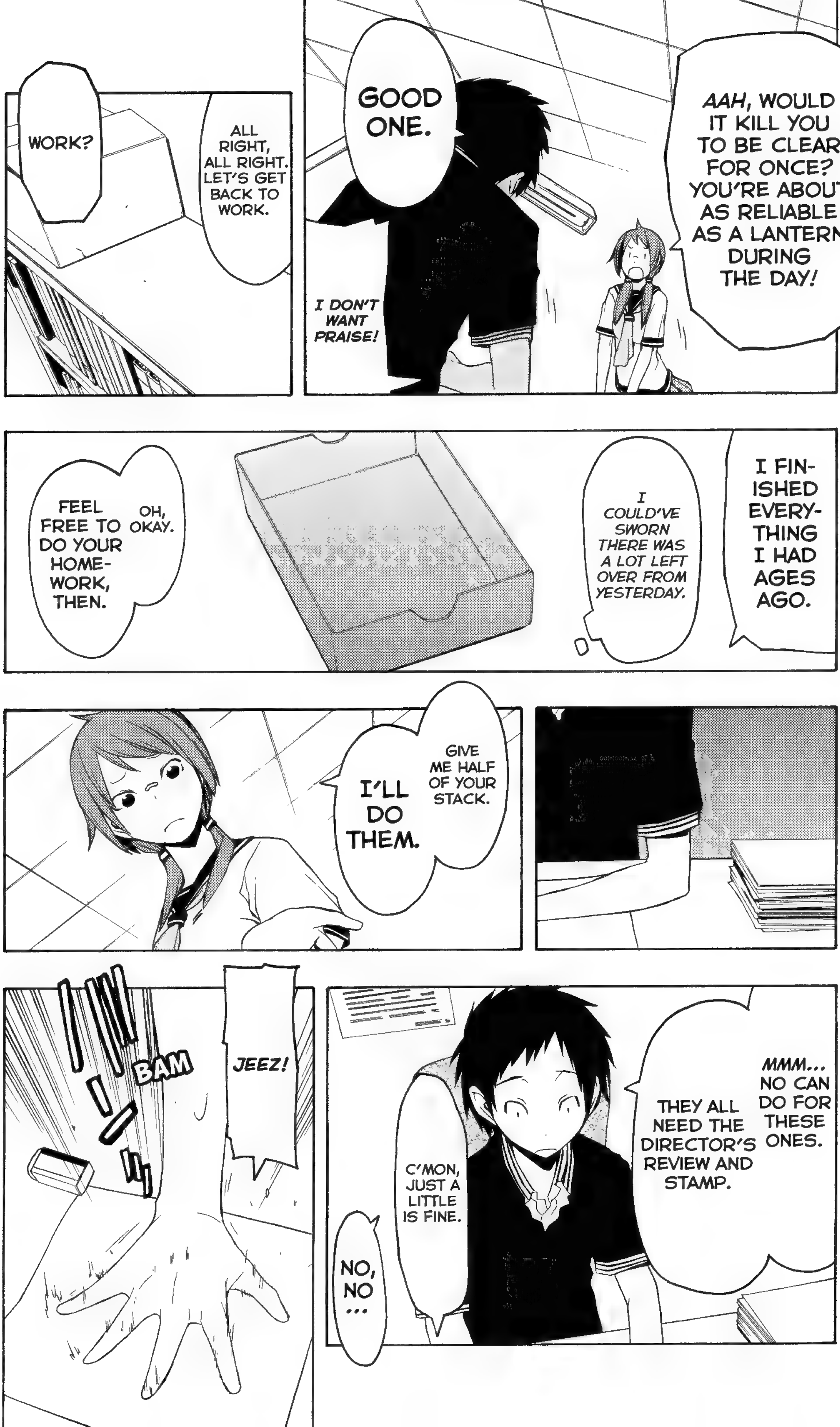

THINGS THAT STICK TOGETHER WILL, AND THINGS THAT DON'T, WON'T.
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
EVEN WITHOUT ANY SPECIAL TACTICS, EVERYTHING WORKS IN HINDSIGHT.
JUST BE YOURSELF.
I LIKE THAT SORT OF THING.
I SEEEE...
I'M NOT SURE IF THAT HELPS OR NOT.
ASK ME ANYTHING YOU WANT!
I'M FOUR TIMES THE MAIDEN YOU GIRLS ARE!
HOW RELIABLE!
プルルル
BRRR
HELLO-HELLO. YES. THE DIRECTOR?
ONE MOMENT, PLEASE.
SHALL WE?
OKAY.
AKINAAA! C'MERE, WILL YA?!

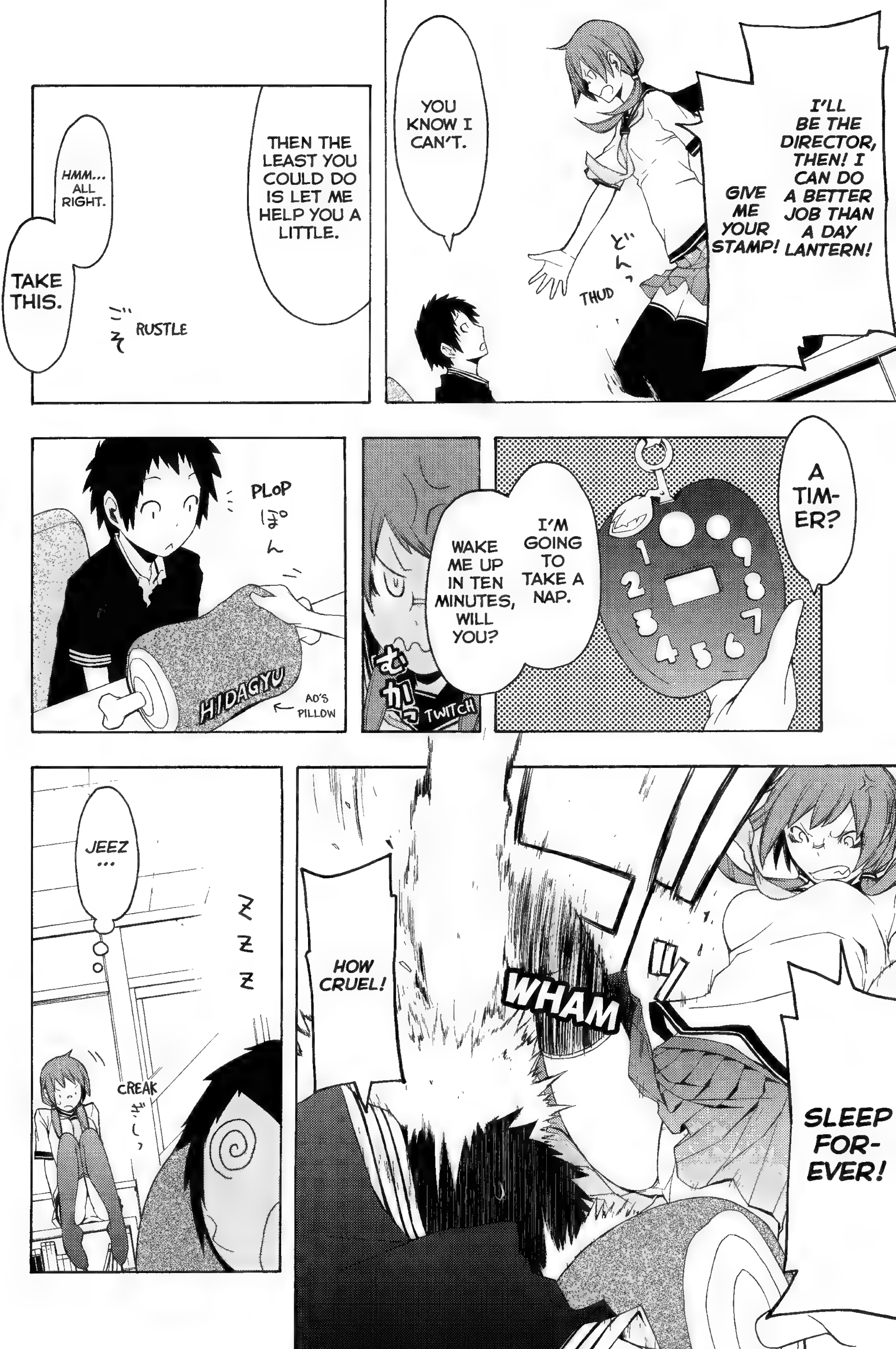

HIME AND TOUKA SURE HAVE STRANGE TASTES.
I JUST DON'T SEE WHAT THEY SEE.
...HEY, AKINA.
YEAH?

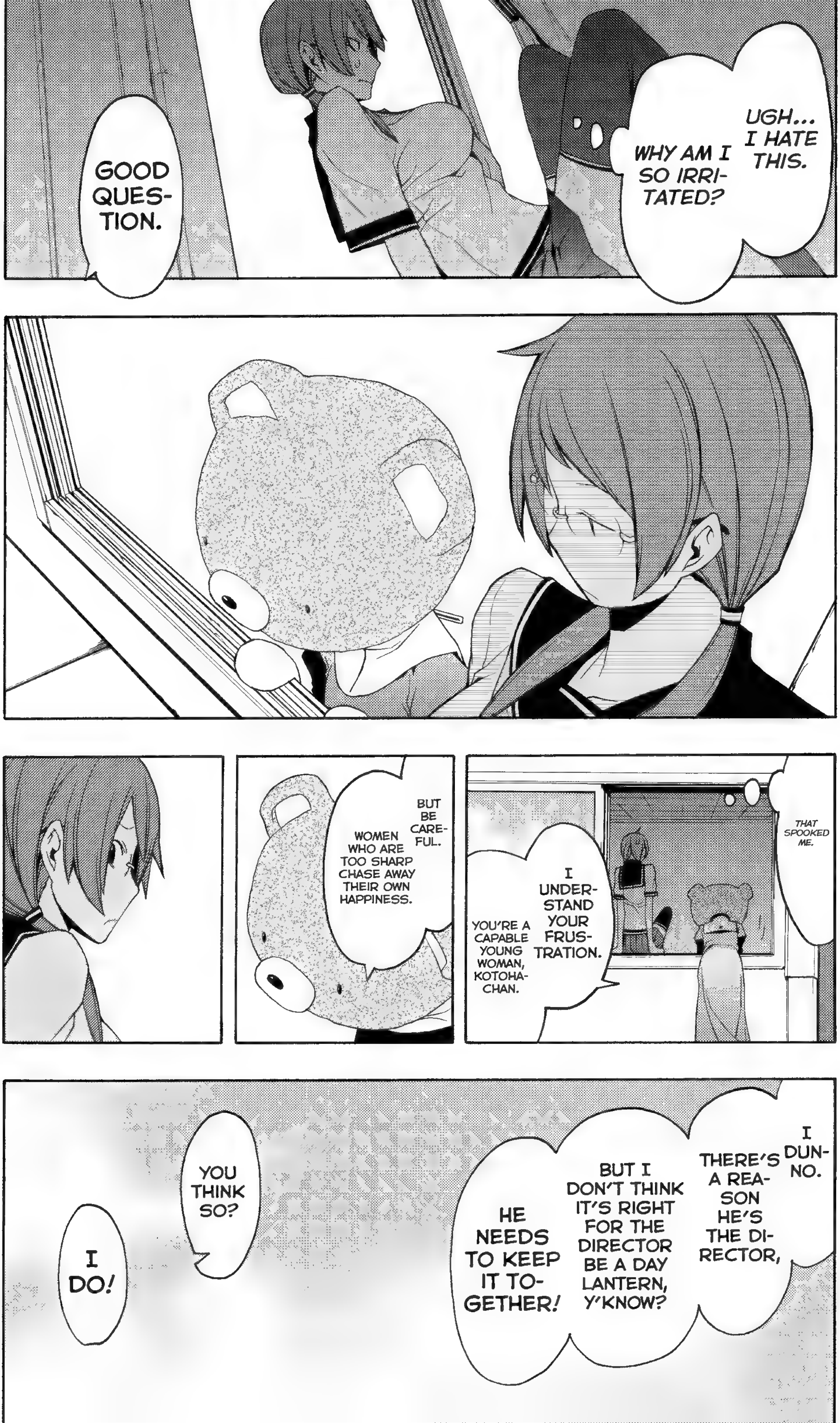

WHO DO YOU LIKE, HIME OR TOUKA?
...AS IF I COULD ASK SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
WHAT?
SPIT IT OUT.
AAH, SORRY, SORRY.
DO YOU LIKE ME?
バサ バサ
FLAP FLAP

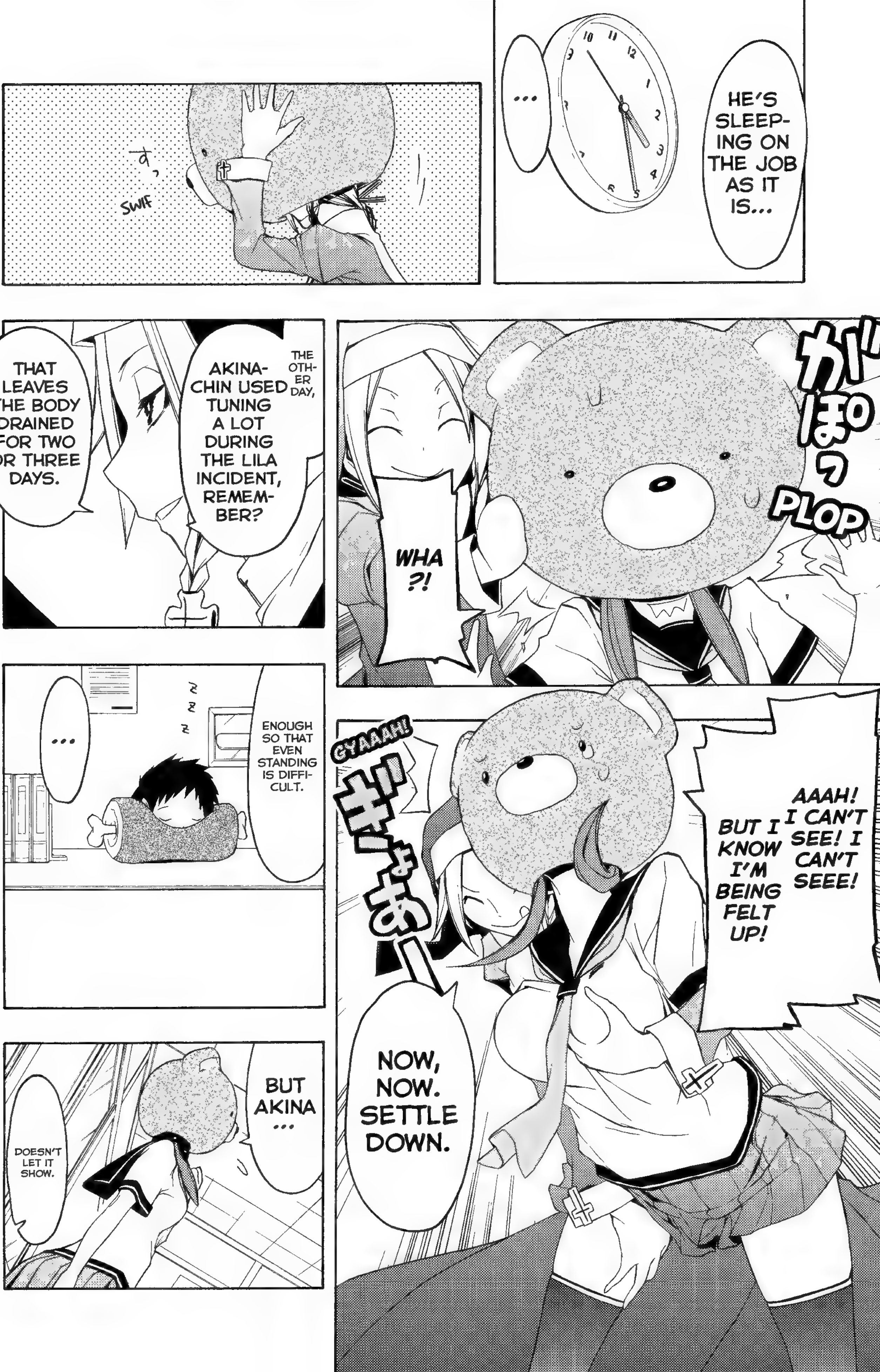

...
ギギギ…
KREEE
WHY DO YOU LOOK SO SUSPICIOUS?
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK YOU'RE PLOTTING SOMETHING AGAIN...
C'MON, WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR A LONG TIME.
DON'T YOU THINK WE SHOULD SEE WHERE WE BOTH STAND?
べたべた
CLING
CLING
PLEASE STOP, IT'S TOO HOT...
FROWN
むっ
IT'S IRRITATING IN ITS OWN WAY TO JUST BE BRUSHED OFF LIKE THAT, Y'KNOW!
ギュッち
SQUEEZE
ぎゅち
SQUEEZE
OW! OW!
A FIGURE FOUR NECK HOLD IS DANGEROUS!

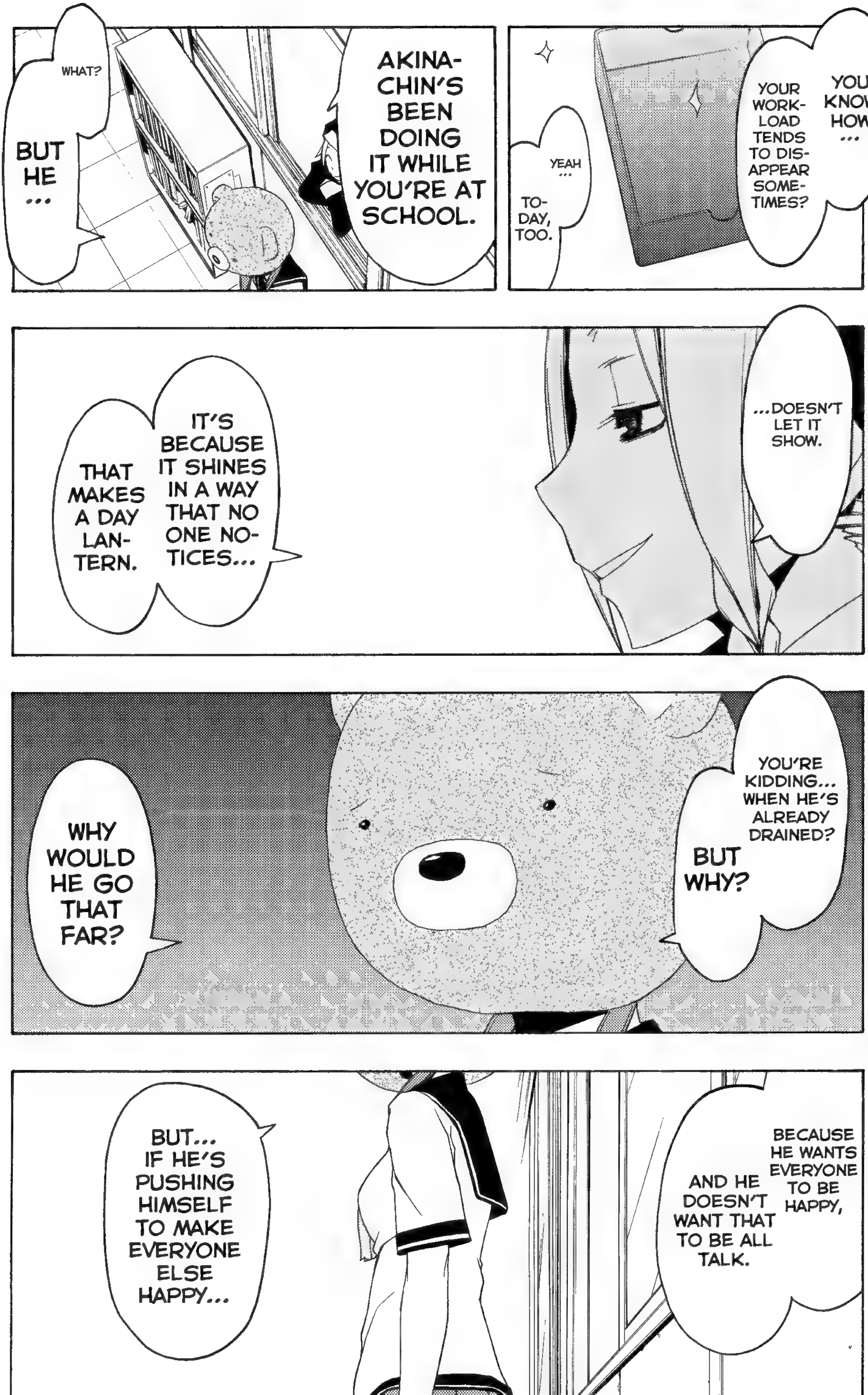

HEY, WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT WITH SHIDARE-SAN?
MMM... ABOUT WHAT IS EVIL AND WHAT IS JUSTICE.
AND HOW EITHER SIDE CAN BE SEEN AS EVIL DEPENDING ON HOW YOU LOOK AT IT.
OR HOW ENJIN'S ACTIONS COULD BE SEEN AS JUST.
HUH?
AND HOW DID YOU RESPOND TO THAT?
THAT I'M TRYING NOT TO THINK ABOUT GOOD AND EVIL...
...AND WANT TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY WITHOUT THAT FRAMEWORK IN MIND.
...THE HELL?
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A LITTLE TOO HOPEFUL?
SINCE WE'RE RUNNING THIS OFFICE AND ALL,
DON'T WE KINDA HAVE TO BELIEVE OUR ACTIONS ARE JUST?
WELL, YEAH...
BUT I ALSO WONDER IF THERE'S A BETTER WAY.

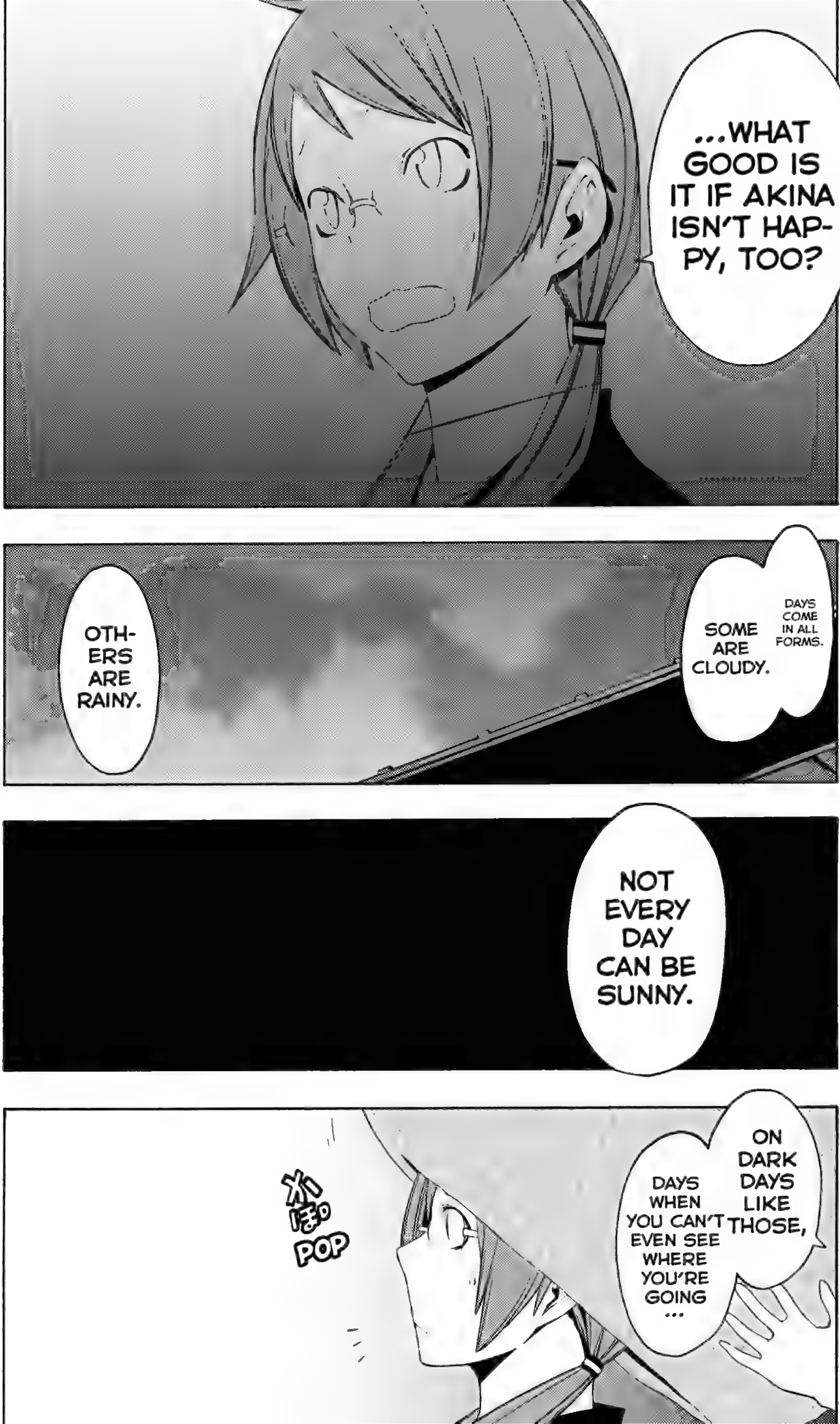

AAH, WOULD IT KILL YOU TO BE CLEAR FOR ONCE? YOU'RE ABOUT AS RELIABLE AS A LANTERN DURING THE DAY!
GOOD ONE.
I DON'T WANT PRAISE!
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. LET'S GET BACK TO WORK.
WORK?
I FINISHED EVERYTHING I HAD AGES AGO.
I COULD'VE SWORN THERE WAS A LOT LEFT OVER FROM YESTERDAY.
OH, OKAY.
FEEL FREE TO DO YOUR HOMEWORK, THEN.
GIVE ME HALF OF YOUR STACK.
I'LL DO THEM.
MMM... NO CAN DO FOR THESE ONES.
THEY ALL NEED THE DIRECTOR'S REVIEW AND STAMP.
C'MON, JUST A LITTLE IS FINE.
NO, NO...
JEEZ!
BAM

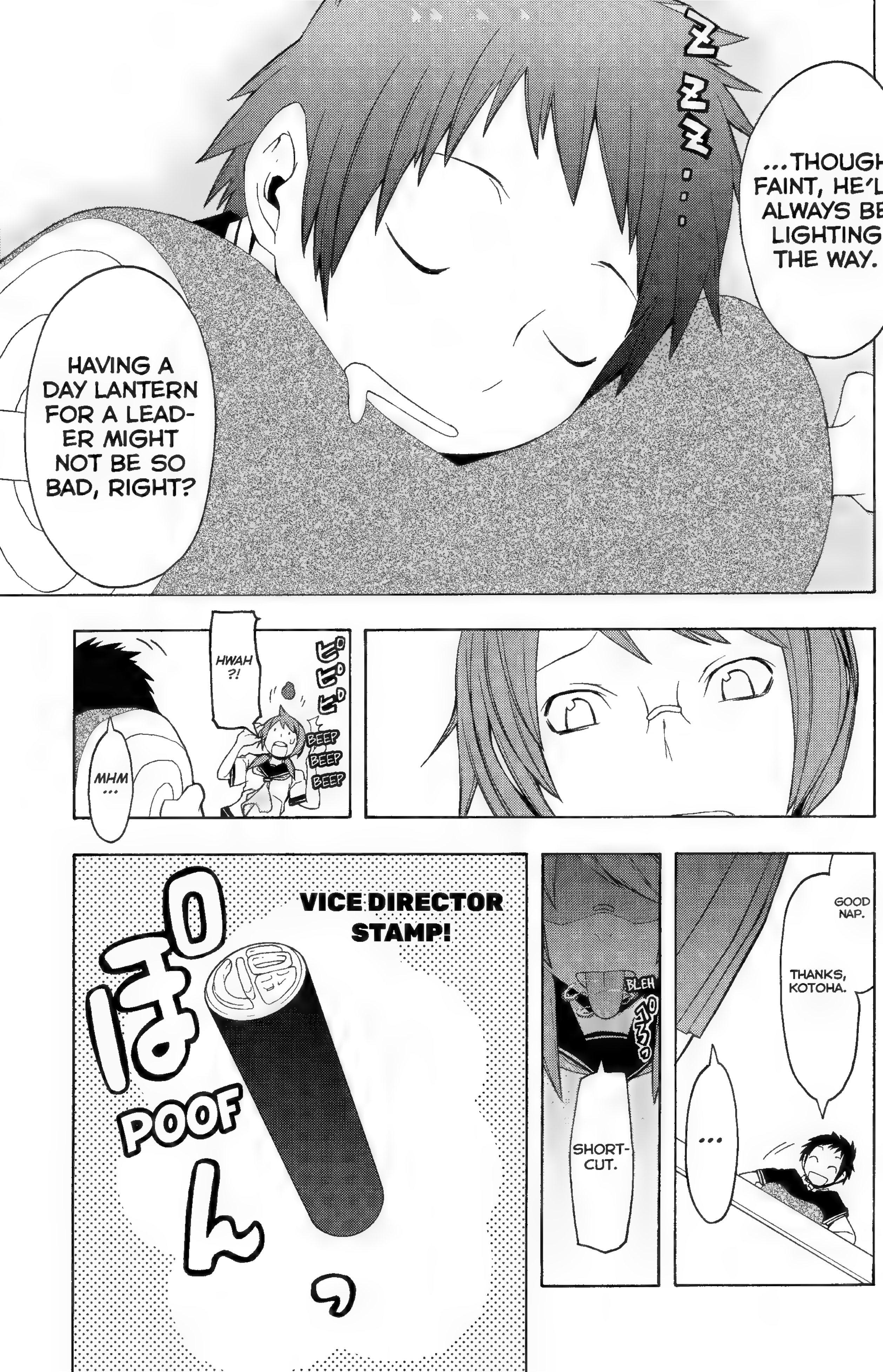

I'LL BE THE DIRECTOR, THEN! I CAN DO A BETTER JOB THAN A DAY LANTERN!
GIVE ME YOUR STAMP!
どんっ THUD
YOU KNOW I CAN'T.
THEN THE LEAST YOU COULD DO IS LET ME HELP YOU A LITTLE.
HMM... ALL RIGHT.
TAKE THIS.
ごそ RUSTLE
A TIMER?
I'M GOING TO TAKE A NAP.
WAKE ME UP IN TEN MINUTES, WILL YOU?
むかっ TWITCH
PLOP ぽん
HIDAGYU
AO'S PILLOW
SLEEP FOREVER!
WHAM
HOW CRUEL!
JEEZ...
Z Z Z
CREAK ぎしっ

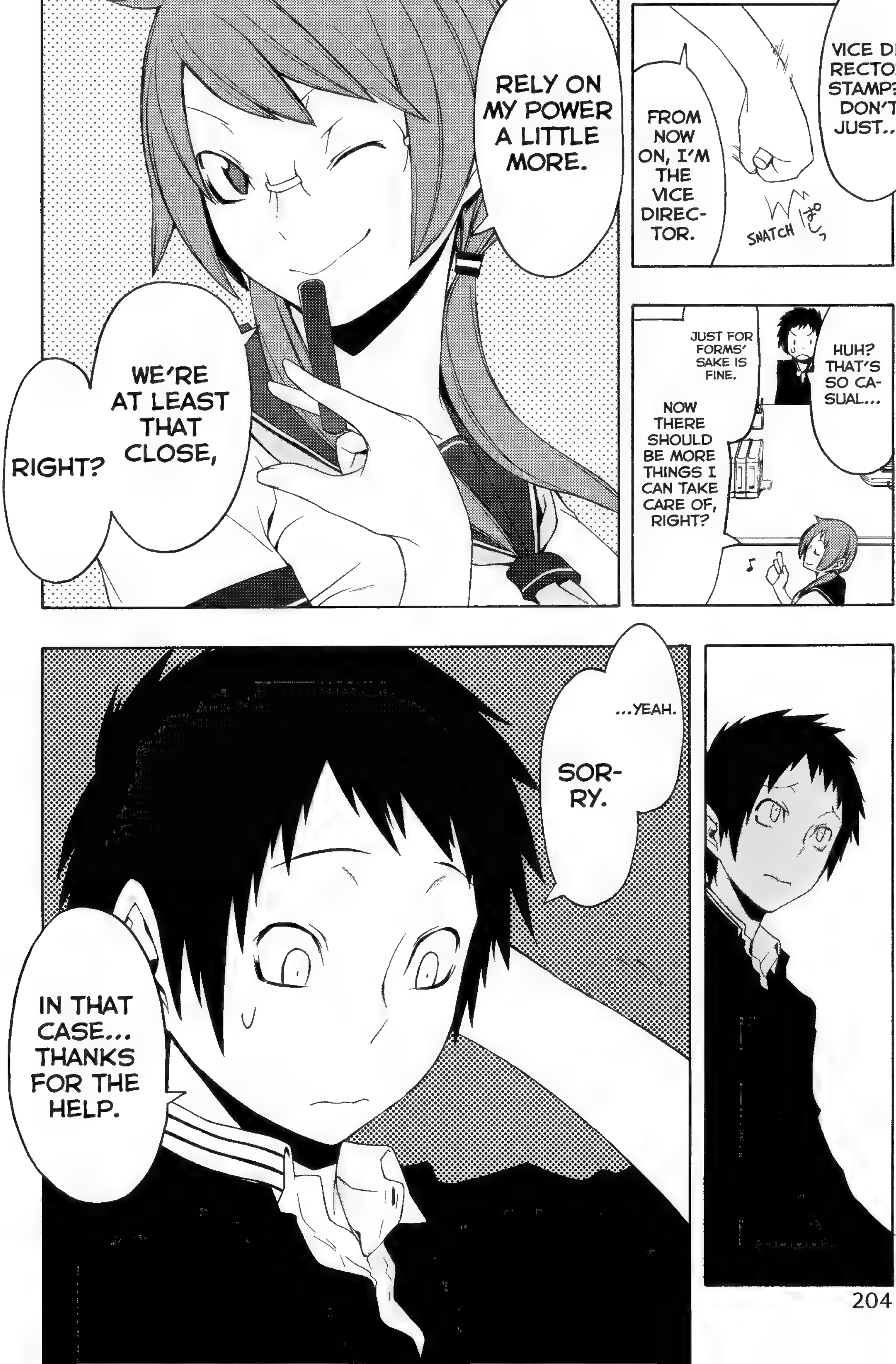

UGH... I HATE THIS.
WHY AM I SO IRRITATED?
GOOD QUESTION.
THAT SPOOKED ME.
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FRUSTRATION.
YOU'RE A CAPABLE YOUNG WOMAN, KOTOHA-CHAN.
BUT BE CAREFUL.
WOMEN WHO ARE TOO SHARP CHASE AWAY THEIR OWN HAPPINESS.
I DUNNO.
THERE'S A REASON HE'S THE DIRECTOR,
BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S RIGHT FOR THE DIRECTOR BE A DAY LANTERN, Y'KNOW?
HE NEEDS TO KEEP IT TOGETHER!
YOU THINK SO?
I DO!

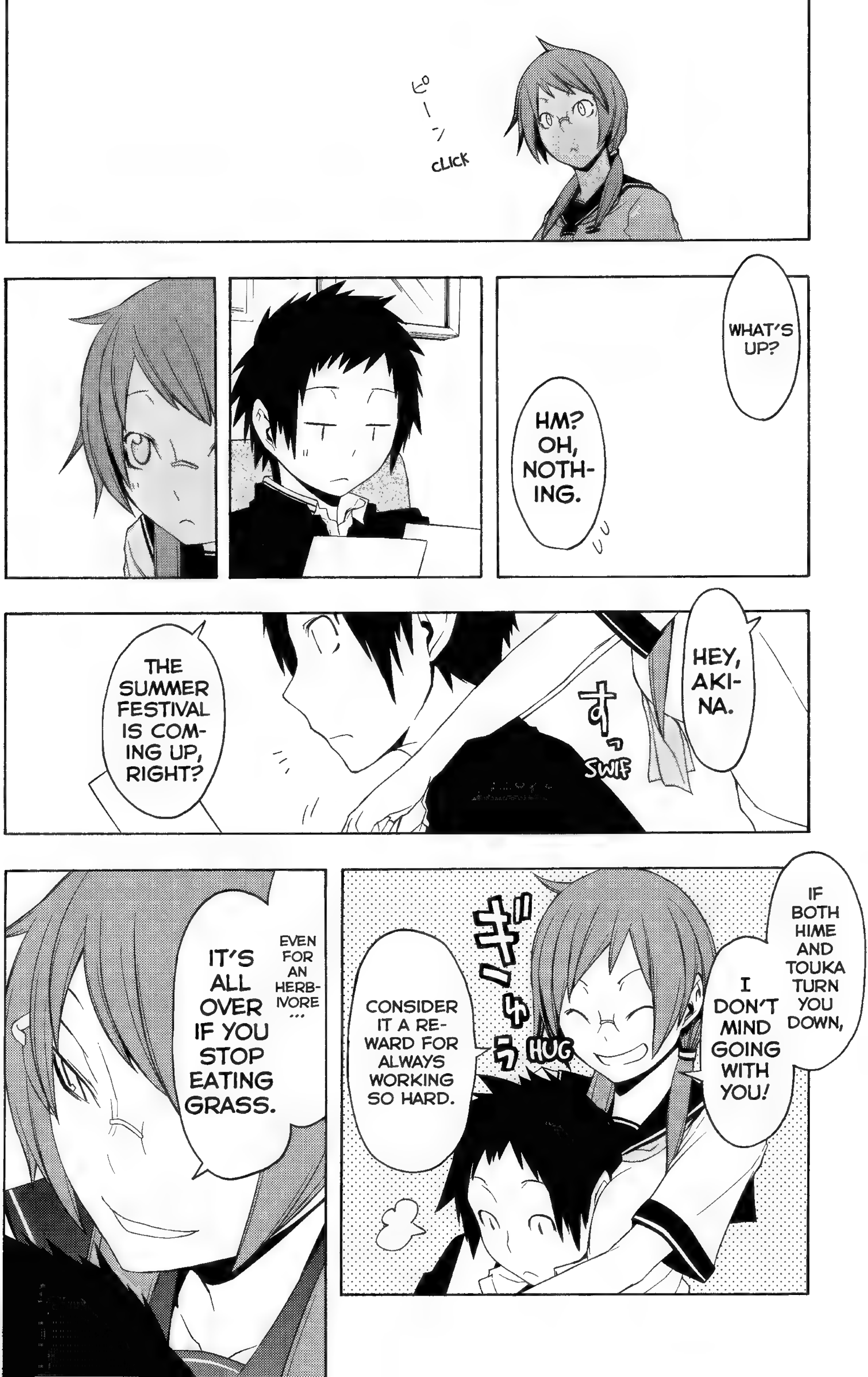

HE'S SLEEPING ON THE JOB AS IT IS...
...
す
SWIF
かぽっ
PLOP
WHA?!
THE OTHER DAY,
AKINA-CHIN USED TUNING A LOT DURING THE LILA INCIDENT, REMEMBER?
THAT LEAVES THE BODY DRAINED FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS.
AAAH! I CAN'T SEE! I CAN'T SEEE!
BUT I KNOW I'M BEING FELT UP!
GYAAAH!
ぎょあー
NOW, NOW. SETTLE DOWN.
ENOUGH SO THAT EVEN STANDING IS DIFFICULT.
Z Z Z
...
BUT AKINA...
DOESN'T LET IT SHOW.

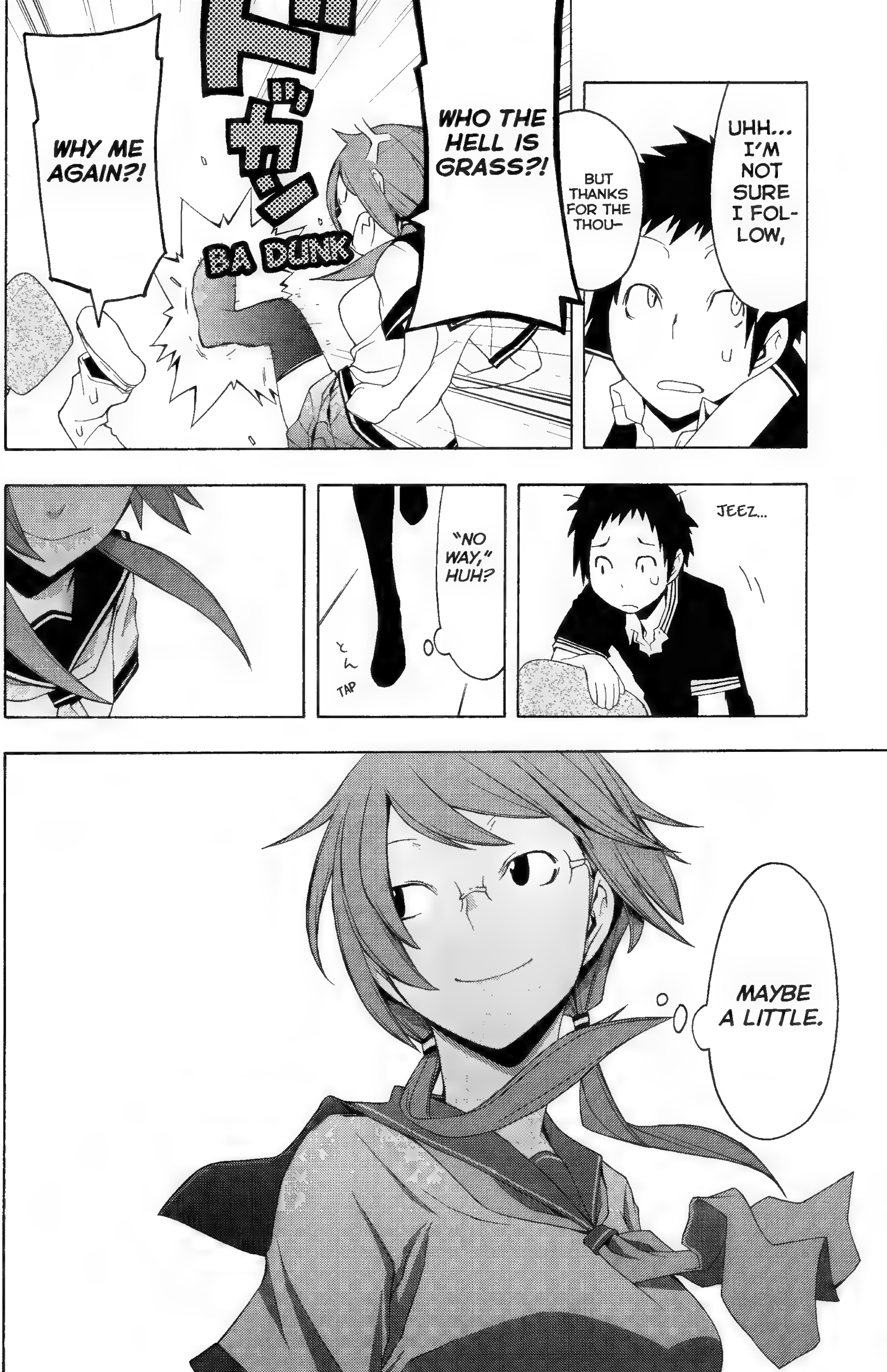

YOU KNOW HOW...
YOUR WORKLOAD TENDS TO DISAPPEAR SOMETIMES?
YEAH...
TODAY, TOO.
AKINA-CHIN'S BEEN DOING IT WHILE YOU'RE AT SCHOOL.
WHAT?
BUT HE...
...DOESN'T LET IT SHOW.
IT'S BECAUSE IT SHINES IN A WAY THAT NO ONE NOTICES...
THAT MAKES A DAY LANTERN.
YOU'RE KIDDING... WHEN HE'S ALREADY DRAINED?
BUT WHY?
WHY WOULD HE GO THAT FAR?
BECAUSE HE WANTS EVERYONE TO BE HAPPY,
AND HE DOESN'T WANT THAT TO BE ALL TALK.
BUT... IF HE'S PUSHING HIMSELF TO MAKE EVERYONE ELSE HAPPY...

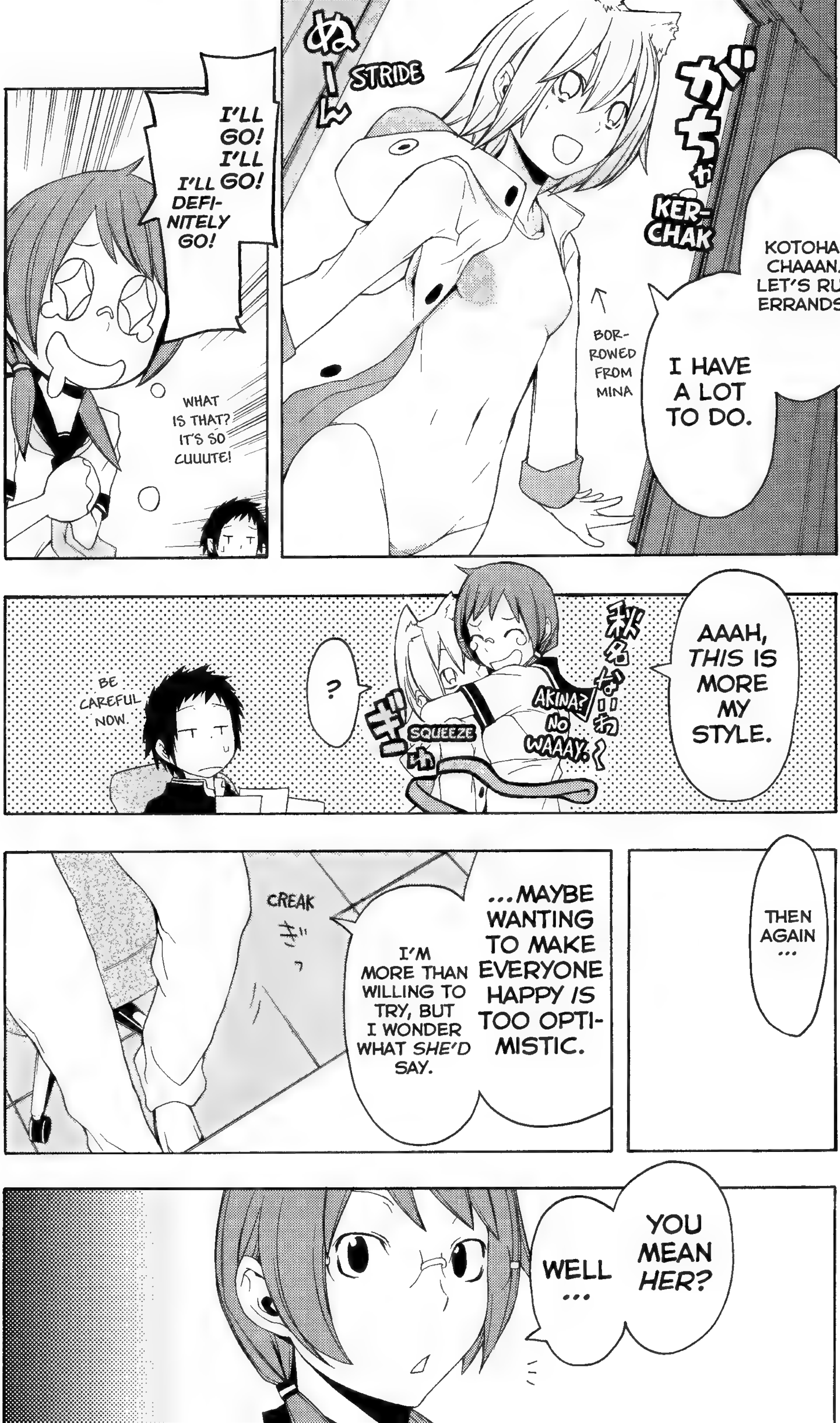

...WHAT GOOD IS IT IF AKINA ISN'T HAPPY, TOO?
DAYS COME IN ALL FORMS.
SOME ARE CLOUDY.
OTHERS ARE RAINY.
NOT EVERY DAY CAN BE SUNNY.
ON DARK DAYS LIKE THOSE,
DAYS WHEN YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE WHERE YOU'RE GOING ...
POP

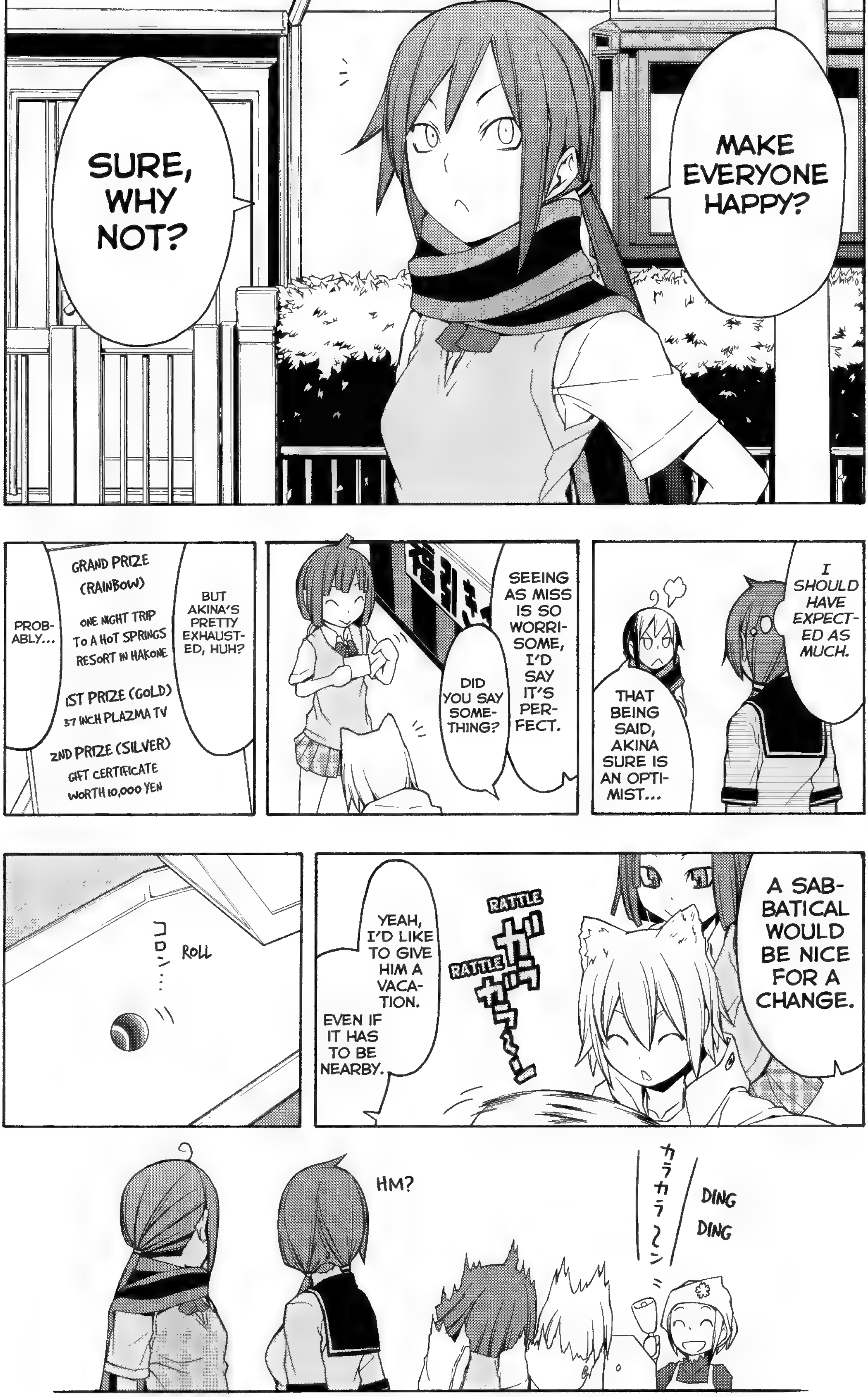

Zzz...
...THOUGH FAINT, HE'LL ALWAYS BE LIGHTING THE WAY.
HAVING A DAY LANTERN FOR A LEADER MIGHT NOT BE SO BAD, RIGHT?
ピピピ
BEEP BEEP BEEP
HWAH ?!
MHM ...
GOOD NAP.
THANKS, KOTOHA.
...
べろっ
BLEH
SHORT-CUT.
VICE DIRECTOR STAMP!
ぽんっ
POOF

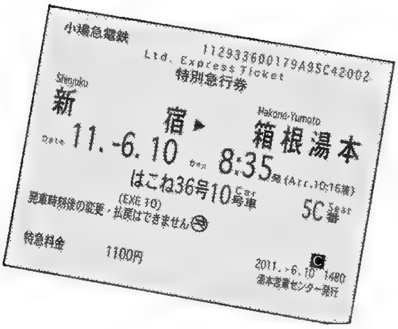

VICE DIRECTOR STAMP?! DON'T JUST...
FROM NOW ON, I'M THE VICE DIRECTOR.
SNATCH ぱしっ
HUH? THAT'S SO CASUAL...
JUST FOR FORMS' SAKE IS FINE.
NOW THERE SHOULD BE MORE THINGS I CAN TAKE CARE OF, RIGHT?
RELY ON MY POWER A LITTLE MORE.
WE'RE AT LEAST THAT CLOSE, RIGHT?
...YEAH.
SORRY.
IN THAT CASE... THANKS FOR THE HELP.


ピーン
CLICK
WHAT'S UP?
HM? OH, NOTHING.
HEY, AKINA.
すっ
SWIF
THE SUMMER FESTIVAL IS COMING UP, RIGHT?
IF BOTH HIME AND TOUKA TURN YOU DOWN,
I DON'T MIND GOING WITH YOU!
ぎゅう
HUG
CONSIDER IT A REWARD FOR ALWAYS WORKING SO HARD.
EVEN FOR AN HERBIVORE...
IT'S ALL OVER IF YOU STOP EATING GRASS.


UHH... I'M NOT SURE I FOLLOW,
BUT THANKS FOR THE THOU–
WHO THE HELL IS GRASS?!
ドガッ
BA DUNK
WHY ME AGAIN?!
JEEZ...
"NO WAY," HUH?
とん
TAP
MAYBE A LITTLE.


がちゃ
KER-CHAK
KOTOHA-CHAAAN! LET'S RUN ERRANDS!
I HAVE A LOT TO DO.
BORROWED FROM MINA
ぬーん
STRIDE
I'LL GO! I'LL GO! I'LL DEFINITELY GO!
WHAT IS THAT? IT'S SO CUUUTE!
AAAH, THIS IS MORE MY STYLE.
秋名なーお〜
AKINA? NO WAAAY.
ぎゅ
SQUEEZE
?
BE CAREFUL NOW.
THEN AGAIN...
...MAYBE WANTING TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY IS TOO OPTIMISTIC.
I'M MORE THAN WILLING TO TRY, BUT I WONDER WHAT SHE'D SAY.
ぎっ
CREAK
YOU MEAN HER?
WELL...


MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY?
SURE, WHY NOT?
I SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED AS MUCH.
THAT BEING SAID, AKINA SURE IS AN OPTIMIST...
福引き
SEEING AS MISS IS SO WORRISOME, I'D SAY IT'S PERFECT.
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
BUT AKINA'S PRETTY EXHAUSTED, HUH?
GRAND PRIZE (RAINBOW)
ONE NIGHT TRIP TO A HOT SPRINGS RESORT IN HAKONE
1ST PRIZE (GOLD)
37 INCH PLAZMA TV
2ND PRIZE (SILVER)
GIFT CERTIFICATE WORTH 10,000 YEN
PROBABLY...
A SABBATICAL WOULD BE NICE FOR A CHANGE.
ガラ RATTLE
ガラ～ RATTLE
YEAH, I'D LIKE TO GIVE HIM A VACATION.
EVEN IF IT HAS TO BE NEARBY.
コロン… ROLL
カラカラ～ン DING DING
HM?



小場急電鉄

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特別急行券

Shinjuku

新　宿▶

Hakone-Yumoto

箱根湯本

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はこね36号10号車 Car

(EXE 10)

5C番 Seat

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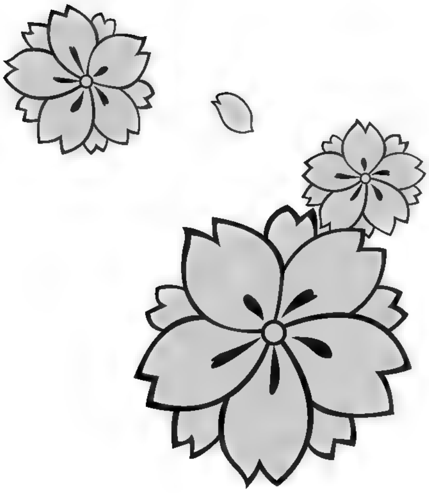
特急料金　1100円

2011.-6.10　1480

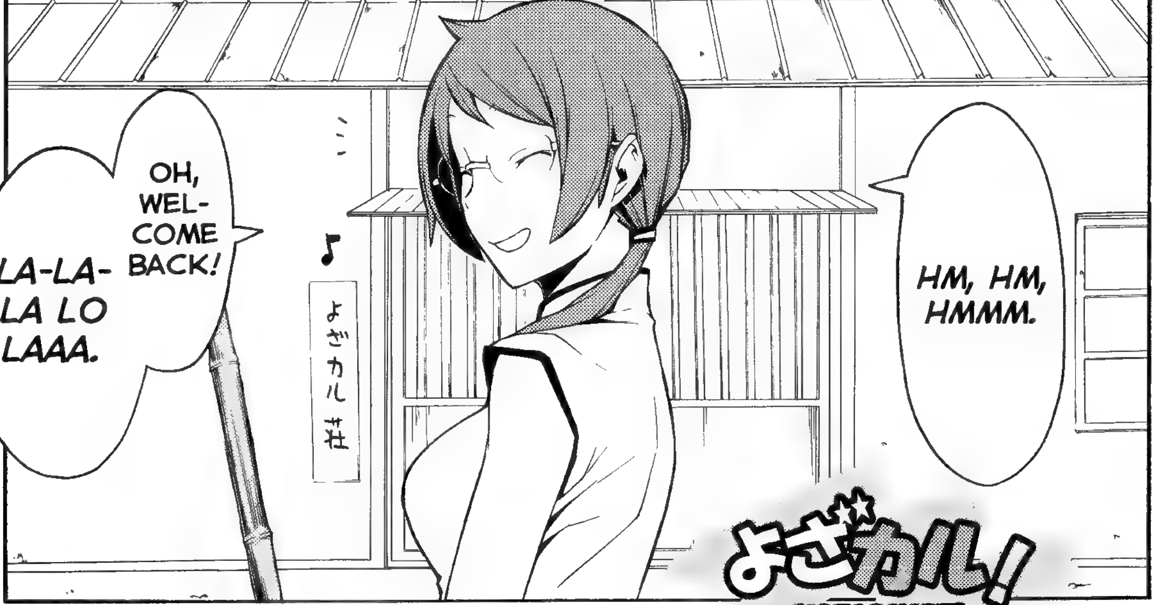
湯本営業センター発行

To be Continued .....

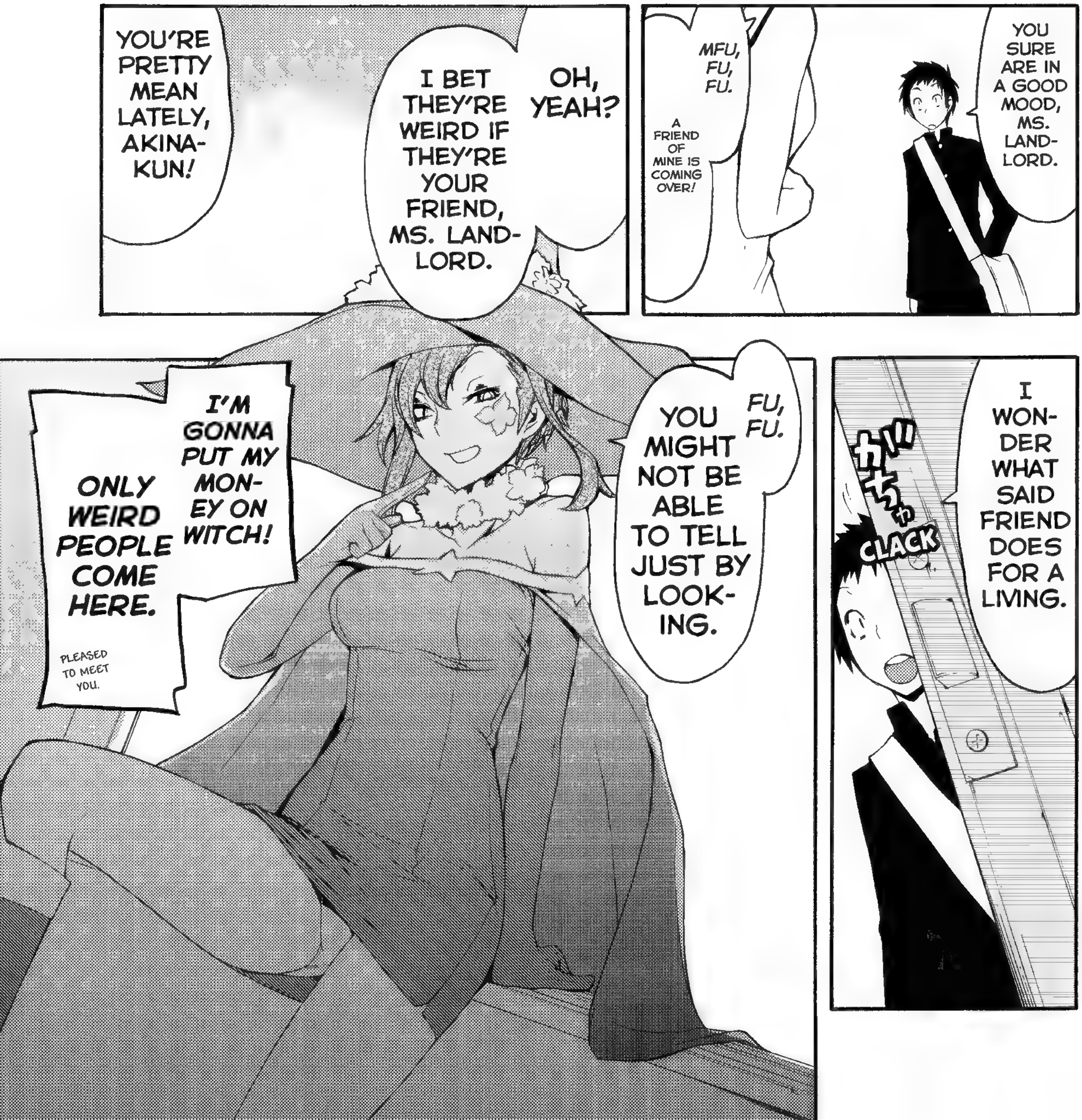
YOZAKURA QUARTET 11

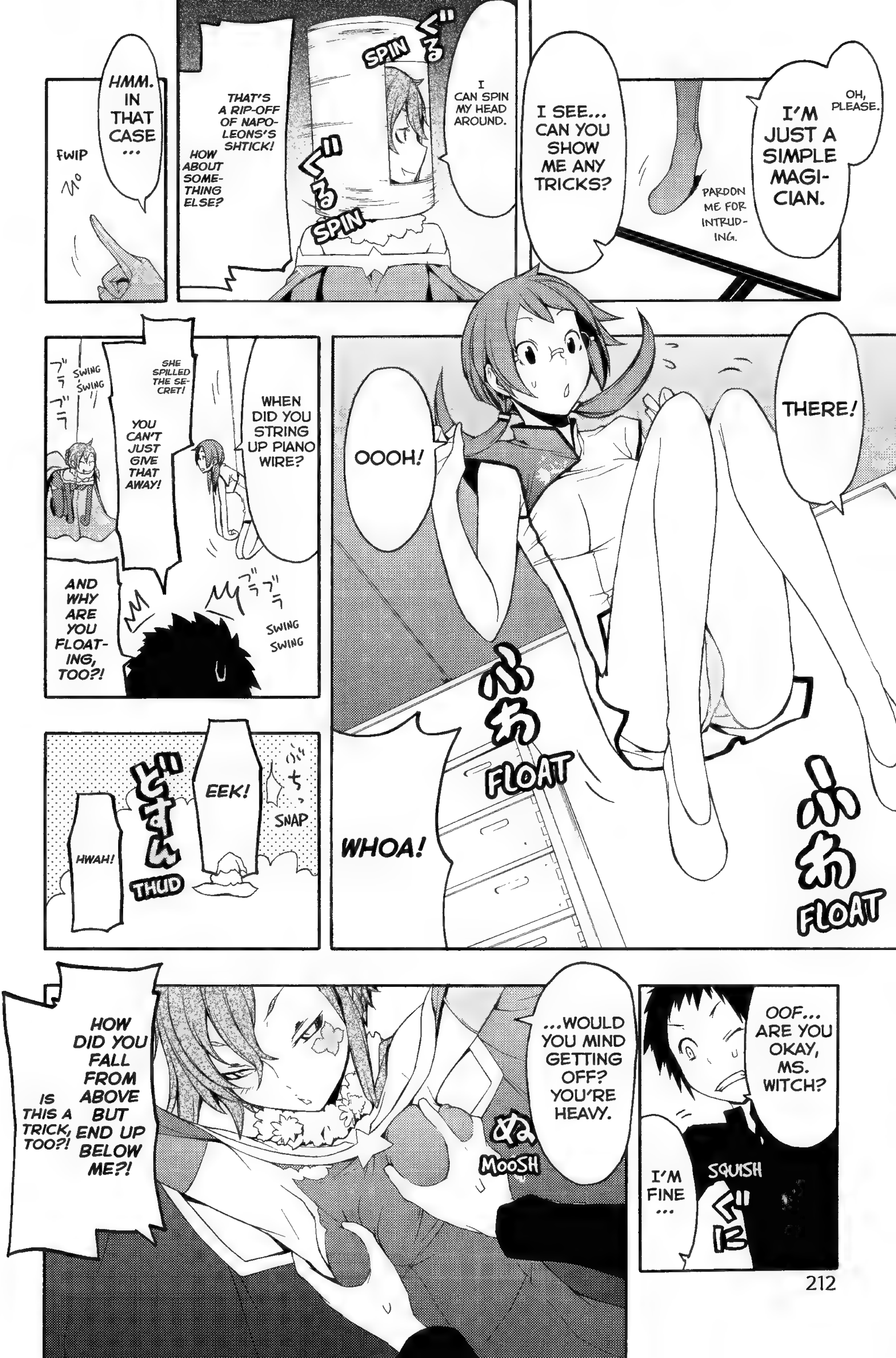


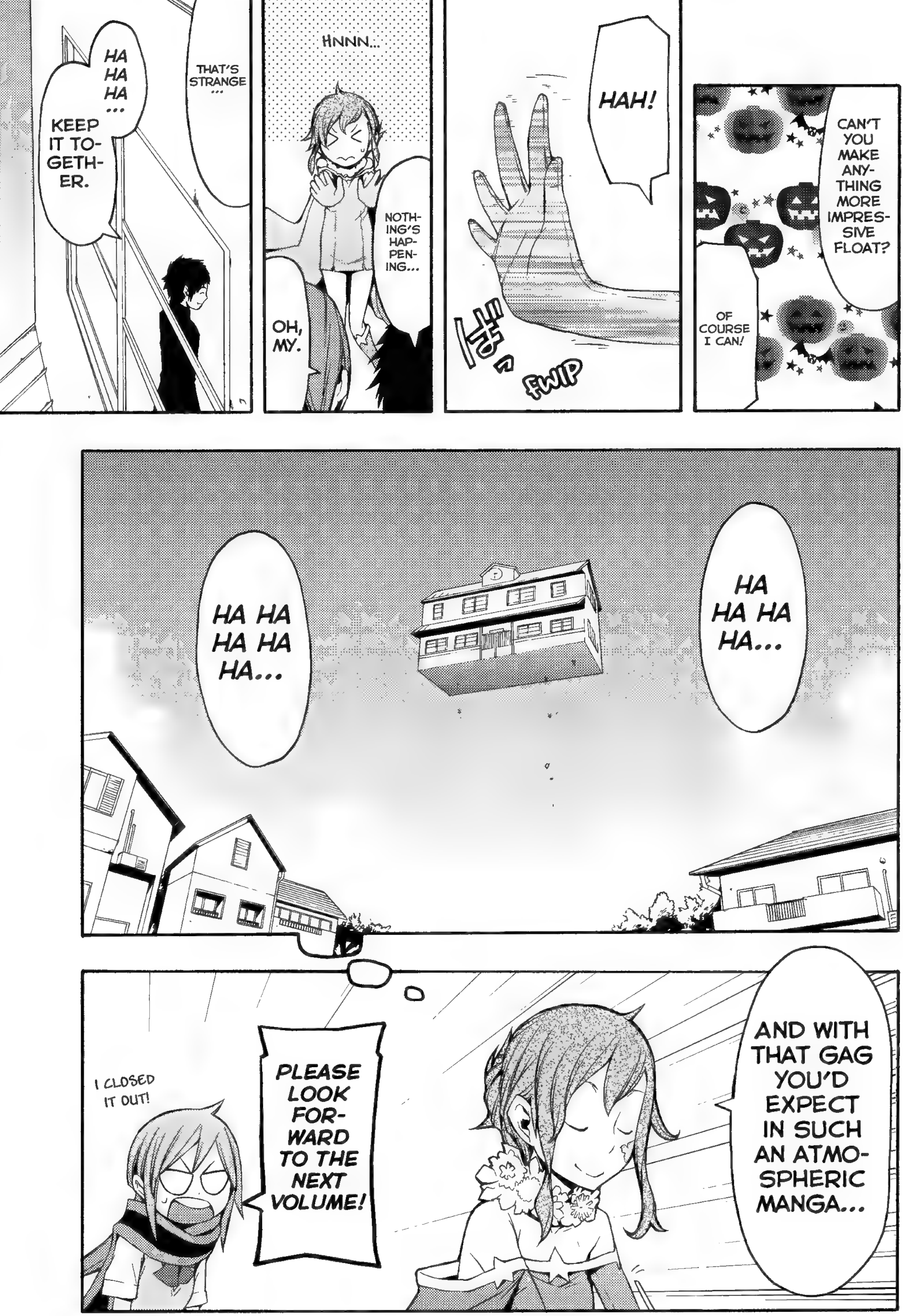
I WONDER IF THERE'LL BE A HOT SPRINGS SCENE...


HM, HM, HMMM.
よざカル荘
OH, WELCOME BACK!
LA-LA-LA LO LAAA.
よざカル!
YOZAQUART!

Sign: YozaQuart Manor

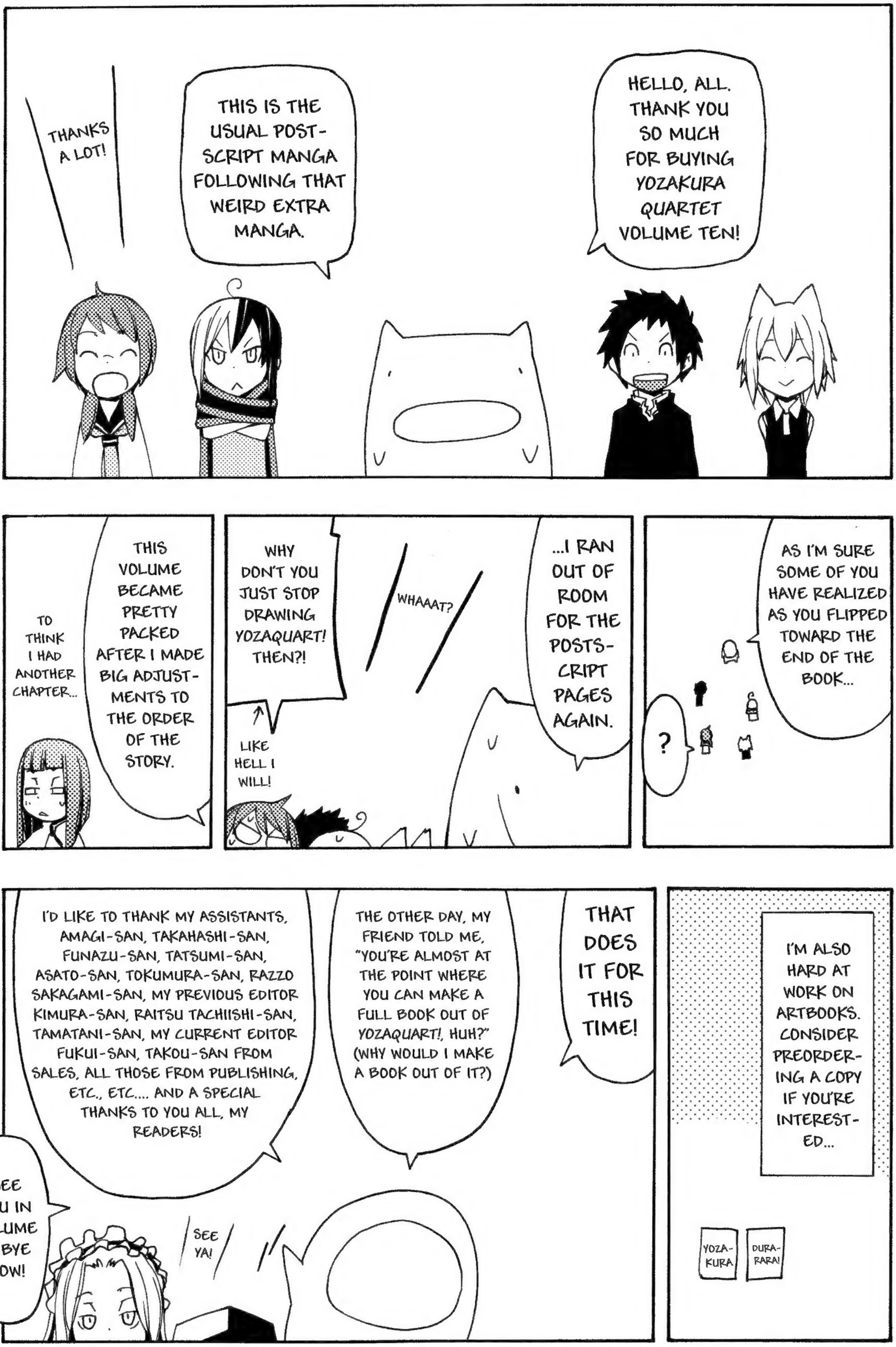

YOU SURE ARE IN A GOOD MOOD, MS. LANDLORD.
MFU, FU, FU.
A FRIEND OF MINE IS COMING OVER!
OH, YEAH?
I BET THEY'RE WEIRD IF THEY'RE YOUR FRIEND, MS. LANDLORD.
YOU'RE PRETTY MEAN LATELY, AKINA-KUN!
I WONDER WHAT SAID FRIEND DOES FOR A LIVING.
ガチャ
CLACK
FU, FU.
YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO TELL JUST BY LOOKING.
I'M GONNA PUT MY MONEY ON WITCH!
ONLY WEIRD PEOPLE COME HERE.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU.


OH, PLEASE.
I'M JUST A SIMPLE MAGICIAN.
PARDON ME FOR INTRUDING.
I SEE... CAN YOU SHOW ME ANY TRICKS?
I CAN SPIN MY HEAD AROUND.
ぐる SPIN
ぐる SPIN
THAT'S A RIP-OFF OF NAPOLEONS'S SHTICK!
HOW ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE?
HMM. IN THAT CASE...
ぴ FWIP
THERE!
ふわ FLOAT
OOOH!
ふわ FLOAT
WHOA!
WHEN DID YOU STRING UP PIANO WIRE?
SHE SPILLED THE SECRET!
YOU CAN'T JUST GIVE THAT AWAY!
ブラブラ SWING SWING
AND WHY ARE YOU FLOATING, TOO?!
ブラブラ SWING SWING
EEK!
ぶちっ SNAP
どすん THUD
HWAH!
OOF... ARE YOU OKAY, MS. WITCH?
I'M FINE...
ぐに SQUISH
...WOULD YOU MIND GETTING OFF? YOU'RE HEAVY.
ぬ MOOSH
HOW DID YOU FALL FROM ABOVE BUT END UP BELOW ME?!
IS THIS A TRICK, TOO?!


CAN'T YOU MAKE ANYTHING MORE IMPRESSIVE FLOAT?
OF COURSE I CAN!
HAH!
FWIP
HNNN...
NOTHING'S HAPPENING...
OH, MY.
THAT'S STRANGE...
HA HA HA... KEEP IT TOGETHER.
HA HA HA HA...
HA HA HA HA HA...
AND WITH THAT GAG YOU'D EXPECT IN SUCH AN ATMOSPHERIC MANGA...
PLEASE LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT VOLUME!
I CLOSED IT OUT!

FROM THE COVER OF *MONTHLY SIRIUS*'S 2011 NOVEMBER ISSUE

POSTSCRIPT MANGA


HELLO, ALL. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BUYING YOZAKURA QUARTET VOLUME TEN!
THIS IS THE USUAL POSTSCRIPT MANGA FOLLOWING THAT WEIRD EXTRA MANGA.
THANKS A LOT!
AS I'M SURE SOME OF YOU HAVE REALIZED AS YOU FLIPPED TOWARD THE END OF THE BOOK...
?
...I RAN OUT OF ROOM FOR THE POSTSCRIPT PAGES AGAIN.
WHAAAT?
WHY DON'T YOU JUST STOP DRAWING YOZAQUART! THEN?!
LIKE HELL I WILL!
THIS VOLUME BECAME PRETTY PACKED AFTER I MADE BIG ADJUSTMENTS TO THE ORDER OF THE STORY.
TO THINK I HAD ANOTHER CHAPTER...
I'M ALSO HARD AT WORK ON ARTBOOKS. CONSIDER PREORDERING A COPY IF YOU'RE INTERESTED...
YOZAKURA
DURARARA!
THAT DOES IT FOR THIS TIME!
THE OTHER DAY, MY FRIEND TOLD ME, "YOU'RE ALMOST AT THE POINT WHERE YOU CAN MAKE A FULL BOOK OUT OF YOZAQUART!, HUH?" (WHY WOULD I MAKE A BOOK OUT OF IT?)
I'D LIKE TO THANK MY ASSISTANTS, AMAGI-SAN, TAKAHASHI-SAN, FUNAZU-SAN, TATSUMI-SAN, ASATO-SAN, TOKUMURA-SAN, RAZZO SAKAGAMI-SAN, MY PREVIOUS EDITOR KIMURA-SAN, RAITSU TACHIISHI-SAN, TAMATANI-SAN, MY CURRENT EDITOR FUKUI-SAN, TAKOU-SAN FROM SALES, ALL THOSE FROM PUBLISHING, ETC., ETC.... AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO YOU ALL, MY READERS!
SEE YA!
SEE YOU IN VOLUME 11! BYE NOW!

Yozakura Quartet 10

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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